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THE TIMES

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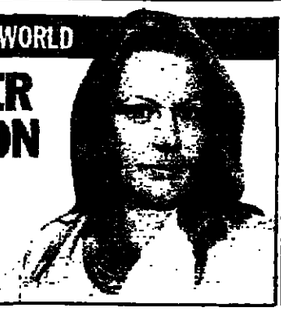


HUGHES ON PLATH: THE BOOK THAT STUNNED THE LITERARY WORLD

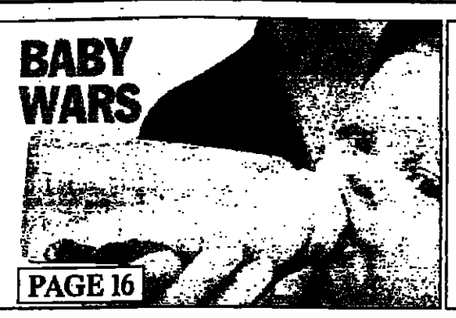
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"I've been hearing about the Scottish parliament plans for weeks now"

Prince asked to help in design of Scottish parliament

BY GILLIAN HARRIS AND MARCUS BINNEY

THE Prince of Wales has been invited by Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, to play a role in the design of the new Scottish parliament.

The Prince, who has been an outspoken opponent of modernist architecture, will now have an opportunity to revive the tradition of placing a distinctively personal royal stamp on a significant new public building.

A letter was sent to the Prince shortly before it was announced two weeks ago that the parliament was to built at Holyrood, alongside the Queen's official residence in Edinburgh.

It has been suggested that Prince Charles could be asked to help to select an architect to design the building, which is expected to cost £50 million.

Mr Dewar has confirmed that there will be a competition for its design. A spokeswoman for him said: "Scottish Office officials have been in touch with Buckingham Palace throughout the selection process, but Mr Dewar did write to the Prince just before the announcement was made, and there will be more contact as plans develop."

If the Prince takes up the invitation it will be in the tradition of Prince Albert, who played a key role in choosing Sir Joseph Paxton to design the 1851 Great Exhibition and supported his proposal for the Crystal Palace against furious criticism.

Prince Albert went on to use the colossal profits from the exhibition to establish the South Kensington museums. He had a penchant for working with engineers and builders more than architects and the Albert Hall and the Victoria and Albert Museum in its early stages were designed by Royal Engineers. Osborne House on the Isle of Wight was evolved by the Prince with Thomas Cubitt, the builder of London's Belgravia.

Balmoral was also largely the Prince Consort's own creation, though most would agree it would be far more impressive if he had gone to one of the great Scottish architects of the day.

Despite his repeated forays into architectural controversy, there has been little chance so far for the Prince of Wales to influence public projects. However, the restoration of Windsor Castle after the fire shows that he is capable of carrying out grand architectural enterprises.

It is thought that Mr Dewar's decision to write to the Prince stemmed from their close personal relationship. Last July they laughed and joked at an awards ceremony in Glasgow where Mr Dewar admitted that the Government's Welfare to Work scheme was inspired by the Prince's Trust.

However, members of the architecture profession who are regularly lambasted by the Prince expressed mixed feelings about his involvement in the project.

All ideas for the Scottish parliament have focused on the need for an eye-catching, modern building — which would not necessarily find favour with the Prince.

Ceasefire in peril as two more are shot

BY MARTIN FLETCHER AND PHILIP WEBSTER

NORTHERN IRELAND was facing a return to full-scale sectarian warfare last night after republican terrorists shot a prominent South Belfast loyalist in retaliation for the killings of four Roman Catholics over the past three weeks.

The murder — followed within hours by another shooting in which a Catholic was wounded — came as Tony Blair and Gerry Adams met at 10 Downing Street and brought immediate calls from politicians on all sides for an end to the violence.

Mr Adams was at Downing Street to express Sinn Fein's objections to the latest Anglo-Irish peace initiative, but he joined Mr Blair in interpreting the recent killings as an attempt to derail the peace process and agreed that the people behind them must not be allowed to get away with it.

The Irish National Liberation Army, which has never endorsed the IRA's ceasefire, said that it had "executed" Jim Guiney, who had close links to the loyalist paramilitary Ulster Defence Association. Security sources would not, however, rule out IRA collusion, saying the IRA had shown it could control the INLA when it wanted to.

But other sources said the INLA had timed its attack to embarrass Mr Adams before his meeting with Mr Blair. They said that the INLA wanted to show it was fighting, not engaged in fruitless talks, and that it had a hit list of a dozen other loyalist, unionists and Orangemen.

Mr Guiney died after two gunmen walked into his carpet shop in Dunmurry on Belfast's southern fringe and opened fire across the counter. The attackers, one wearing a wig, escaped through the back of the shop and ran across a railway line to a stolen get-away car which was found burning six minutes later.

The murder of Mr Guiney, who was 38 and married with four children, came the day after the Loyalist Volunteer Force killed 28-year-old Fergal McCusker in Maghera, Co Londonderry. Elements of the UDA have assisted other recent LVF killings, and the fear was that they would now openly breach the ceasefire.

Within hours of the murder of Mr Guiney, a taxi driver was shot four times as he sat in his car outside the Enterprise Taxis depot in the Ormeau Road. The man, believed to be a Roman Catholic, was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital for emergency treatment to upper body wounds.

That shooting came in spite of an appeal for calm from Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, who had suspended the Northern Ireland peace talks for two hours after Mr Guiney was shot. "I beg people not to indulge in retaliation because why should we lose more lives when we are doing what we can to move things forward and provide an alternative," she said.

David Andrews, the Irish Foreign Minister, said the killing highlighted the extreme dangers of the situation and insisted that Northern Ireland "must not be plunged back into a further depressing spiral of violence".

Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party which represents the UDA at Stormont, said the killing of his friend, Mr Guiney, was a "calculated effort by republicans to rob the people of Northern Ireland of the opportunity to find peace".

Mitchel McLaughlin, the Sinn Fein chairman, said the killing did absolutely nothing for the search for peace and warned of a "real possibility of a return to the history of conflict". He said the killing

Continued on page 2, col 3

SIMON WALKER



One of the new creations for Dior by British designer John Galliano, who yesterday dazzled the Paris fashion week with a flamboyant show in l'Opéra. Report, page 4

Insulation in 40,000 homes 'may be faulty'

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND NICK NUTTALL

TENS of thousands of homeowners throughout Britain were given a warning last night that they may have to reinsulate their homes to avoid serious structural damage.

The Environment Department announced that a new insulation system — used on more than 30,000 newly built homes and on older ones since 1989 — may be defective.

Research by the Building Research Establishment showed that the life expectancy of the system, which is used to insulate cavity walls, has been dramatically reduced.

Angela Eagle, the Environment Minister, said that precautionary checks would be carried out on properties throughout Britain after tests uncovered accelerated corrosion. It was found that plastic coating on steel wires, used to hold cavity walls together, has reacted with insulation foam poured between the walls. That has shortened the life expectancy of the galvanised steel wires.

The Government has ordered further tests on 60 houses throughout Britain because initial tests were carried out on experimental "dwarf walls" — low ones in the open without the normal protection of a house. Last night Ms Eagle sought to reassure homeowners, describing the new tests as a prudent precautionary measure. She added: "I want to stress that there is no conclusive evidence of a safety risk involving galvanised steel wire wall ties in cavity wall insulation.

"But it would be wrong if, as a result of the preliminary findings, we did not investigate quickly and thoroughly whether or not the possible problems with green-coloured galvanised steel wire wall ties in some cavity fills were occurring in people's homes."

The insulation system uses Urea formaldehyde, the standard insulation foam. The tests found that other types of cavity wall insulation, such as those using moist blown wool or mineral wools, showed insignificant corrosion. Even cavity walls using galvanised steel but without the green coating were hardly affected.

The findings indicate that the green coating may trap moisture. The number of homes thought to be affected is about 40,000.

But Ms Eagle said that the studies would look at other cavity wall insulations with steel wall ties if that proved necessary.

Luther King rally gunman kills one

One person died yesterday when gunshots were fired into a crowd of marchers at a parade in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, honouring Martin Luther King.

Three children were also wounded: one girl, aged six, is in a critical condition. A police spokesman described the scene after the shooting as "mass pandemonium".

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Law chief proposes to let solicitors in crown courts

BY JILL SHERMAN AND FRANCES GIBB

THE Lord Chancellor will next month announce sweeping new laws to end the monopoly held by private barristers to prosecute in jury trials in the crown courts.

A wider range of lawyers, including Crown Prosecution Service employees, will be allowed to appear in the crown court for the first time.

Lord Irvine of Lairg will also unveil a radical package of measures to modernise the bureaucratic system which lawyers have to go through before they have full rights of audience in court.

The move will open the gates for hundreds more solicitors and other lawyers to start prosecuting jury trials and will effectively end the barristers' closed shop.It will also clear the way for lawyers — both solicitors and barristers — who work in commerce, industry and local government, to take cases for their employers.

The measures have been resisted by the Bar Council, which is worried by proposals to remove most civil legal aid and bring in "no win, no fee" work. Self-employed barristers risk losing a substantial amount of work.

Last night a spokesman for the Bar Council said: "We have grave concern about any erosion of the principle of independent representation which we believe plays a vital role in ensuring integrity in the present justice system."

But Lord Irvine and Geoff Hoon, his deputy, are determined to press ahead with proposals to streamline the judicial system and ensure that the Bar loses one of its last preserves in the crown court.

The moves were welcomed by the Law Society, which has been campaigning for greater rights for its members. A spokesman claimed last night that the Government was failing to make savings on prosecution costs because it could not use CPS lawyers as flexibly as it wished.

Ministers admitted that all the new proposals would require legislation although no White Paper is planned at the moment.

Lawyers resist tax, page 8
Law, pages 39, 41

Thousands are cut off after blizzard

BY GILLIAN HARRIS

MORE than 4,500 homes in the North of Scotland were without electricity yesterday after blizzards and gale force winds brought down power lines.

Roads were blocked, two airports were closed and school was cancelled for about 20,000 children.

Engineers worked in freezing conditions to reconnect customers, some of whom had been without heat or light since Sunday.

Orkney, the Western Isles and Caithness and Sutherland were the worst affected areas although heavy snow moved steadily south during the day, reaching Tayside and Lothian by afternoon.

Drifting snow, several feet deep, forced the closure of Aberdeen and Kirkwall airports and at one stage the A9 between Perth and Inverness was impassable, as were numerous minor roads.

Motorists who did venture out found conditions hazardous as the snow fell on hard-packed ice, making driving almost impossible. There was a spate of accidents as cars spun out of control.

The first proper snowfall of winter was a mixed blessing for the ski centres. "All our runs are complete. Conditions are perfect," said Sandra MacIntyre from the White Corries Centre at Glencoe.

But a spokesman for the Cairngorm Ski Centre at Aviemore said that snow had blocked the roads leading to the ski runs.

Forecast, page 26

Wanted: a song of praise for the millennium

BY RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL yesterday launched a £2,000 competition to write a "hymn for the millennium".

Clergy at St Paul's are insisting that the hymn must be "explicitly Christian" but it does not need to use the word millennium. There will be a prize of £750 each for the author of the best tune and the best lyric, and runner-up prizes of £250.

The competition is a sign that the church is fighting back against what is seen as a secularisation of the nation's millennium plans. As the recent debate over the content of the Millennium Dome indicates, church leaders across all denominations are concerned that the Christian nature of the millennium should not be overlooked.

While so-called "archaic" language — like the more intimate forms of address of *thee* and *thou* — is banned from the entries, the winner must be a hymn, not a song, with a traditional metrical and rhyming structure and with three to five verses.

"It can be addressed to any, or all persons of the Holy Trinity, or, if not addressed to God, must have Jesus Christ as its clear focus," said Canon Michael Saward, Treasurer of St Paul's, who will chair the panel of judges. "It must offer thanks for what is past and must look ahead to a new era. It will need to be strong, and express praise and hope ... and must be recognisable as a hymn triggered by the celebrations."

Examples of the metre to be used include hymns such as *Glorious things of thee are spoken*; *Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore him*; *Come thou fount of every blessing* and *Alleluia, sing to Jesus*. As well as Canon Saward, a hymn writer and editor of *Hymns for Today's Church*, the panel of judges will include members of the Anglican, Methodist and United Reformed churches. Other judges will include Dick Watson, Professor of English at Durham University.

The author of the winning hymn will not necessarily be the author of the winning tune. The panel of judges will attempt to match up the best of both from entries received.



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Ministerial dignity is lost in the Soames underpants

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Poor Nicholas Soames hardly deserved it, especially from one of *Her Majesty's ministers*. The Tory MP for Sussex Mid was in full flood yesterday, telling Peter Mandelson of his concern about what was to be put in the Millennium Dome. Soames is a vast man.

"*You* could have an exhibition *inside your own* underpants!" shouted someone. The accent was Cockney. I looked down to see where it came from. Some backbench Labour wag, no doubt: it's easy to be a cheeky chappie when *you* have no ministerial dignity to maintain.

It was the Minister for Sport, Tony Banks is fast becoming a national treasure. And the idea of Mr Soames's massive Y-fronts being converted into some sort of millennial tent was priceless. Soames took it *with his usual good humour* but the important points he was making about a lack of accounting transparency over the developing dome were fatally undermined.

Humour is a wonderful deflator, though ministers are often nervous about making jokes. Yesterday, Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, felled the grimly chippy opposition spokesman, Michael Fallon, with one gag. Mr Fallon is a clever fellow, but has always been hampered in his political career by a lack of that superficial cuddliness which commends a chap to Tory selection committees. As a result he took a long time to find his first seat, of Darlington; when he lost Darlington, he seemed to be pipped to every post on which he set his sights. Finally, he was adopted for Sevenoaks.

Yesterday he put to Mr Smith a serious question about the tourist sector. In tones honeyed with respect, the Culture Secretary replied that he would like to thank and congratulate Mr Fallon "for his own contribution to British tourism.

"In search of a new constituency, he travelled from Darlington to more than *fifteen seats*." These, he said (as laughter grew) included "Woking, Kensington and Chelsea, Bromley, Horsham, Worthing, and finally Sevenoaks". The serious part of his reply was lost in the general hilarity.

It struck us that all these *destinations* were served by the old Southern Railway, and that Mr Fallon might organise a nostalgic Tory Rover Ticket, on a whistle-stop tour of all the places that rejected him as their Conservative candidate.

With *Guardian* and *Telegraph* colleagues, we conjured up station announcements at Waterloo ...

"*This service is non-stop to Bromley, where the train will divide. Would-be candidates for Sevenoaks and Worthing should join the front four coaches. Applicants for Horsham and Woking should join the rear of the train ...*"

Watching the Minister Without Portfolio later, this sketch was struck by the way Peter Mandelson actually revels in the role of pantomime villain. He positively invites the boos. Yesterday he faced complaints that it was hard to get information from him about his Dome.

"I've answered *over a hundred questions*," he hissed.

"*Ooh!*" came the sarcastic Tory chorus.

"And my predecessor answered only *twenty four*."

"*Aah!*" gloated the Labour benches.

MPs back abortion Bill

Backbenchers support easing rules, writes Ian Murray

SEVERAL backbench MPs are prepared to bring in a Private Member's Bill to make abortion easier, along the lines supported by the Health Secretary Frank Dobson.

Under the Bill, a woman no more than nine weeks pregnant would need to find only one doctor to approve a termination instead of the two required by the 1967 Abortion Act. The proposed amendment would mean that up to this stage of pregnancy, the doctor would either have to give his approval or immediately refer the women to someone prepared to do so.

"At present the law is deliberately obstructive and it is difficult to get proper medical attention," Mr Dobson said yesterday. "I would like to see a relaxation of the rules to encourage women to have earlier abortions which are better for them mentally and physically. As they stand the rules obstruct women.

"Women who are ill-informed and can't easily get advice can be put off by the difficulties so that they end up having a late abortion. This is especially true of younger, vulnerable women and we need to give them help to come to an early decision."

Mr Dobson said the Government had no policy on abortion, which was a matter of conscience on which there would be a free vote in Parliament. "My own view has always been that it should be made easier for women to get an early abortion and if somebody else were to come forward with some proposals along these lines it would certainly have my support."

Jane Roe, campaign manager for the Abortion Law Reform Society, said: "Several backbenchers have told us they would be very happy to take a Bill through if they had support behind them. We believe that is already there."

She said that making it possible to have an early abortion was unlikely to increase the number of terminations. "From the moment they know they are pregnant, most women know whether or not they want to have a baby."

The society believes there would be strong public backing for a relaxation of the law. A MORI opinion poll a year ago found that 64 per cent favoured abortion on request, against 54 per cent in 1980.

Brook Advisory Centres, which specialise in pregnancy advice for teenagers and women up to 25, said: "If the law changed, obstructive doctors could not exist and the whole process would be less of an obstacle course."

Franca Tranza of Marie Stopes International said that removal of the need for two doctors to approve an abortion was an important way to increase the number of early terminations. "We don't want to bypass the doctor, but essentially the decision has to be the woman's."

The anti-abortion group Life accused Mr Dobson of making "profoundly sick remarks". Nuala Scarisbrick, a trustee, said: "This is bad news for the unborn child and for women's health. Easier abortions would lead to more promiscuity, sexual diseases and female infertility."

Backbenchers will have to wait nearly a year until they will have the chance to introduce a Private Member's Bill. Ballots for such bills are held a few weeks after the Queen's Speech in the autumn.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

Under existing legislation two doctors — normally the woman's GP and an obstetrician — are required to give approval before an abortion. The woman must satisfy them that an abortion is necessary for her physical or mental health. Doctors who object to abortion must refer the patient to another practitioner. Girls under 16 are advised to discuss the matter with a close relative but parental approval is not required. About 20 per cent of all conceptions are ended by abortion, with 13 women out of every 1,000 aged 14-49 having one. Twenty years ago the rate was nine women in 1,000. Last year there were 167,000 abortions in England and Wales, 12,000 in Scotland and 6,000 carried out on women from Ireland.

CHRIS HARRIS



Sinn Fein's Pat Doherty, Lucilita Breatnach, Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness confront the anti-terrorist car ramp in Downing Street

Continued from page 1

Ceasefire in peril

should compel all parties to engage in meaningful negotiations at Stormont. Mr Blair's spokesman said both the Prime Minister and Mr Adams had felt that the people behind the murders were trying to stop the talks process and that they must not be allowed to "get away with it".

The Sinn Fein president had gone to Downing Street to complain that the Anglo-Irish blueprint for Northern Ireland was unacceptably biased towards Unionists. "Anyone who thinks an internal settlement is going to work or some assembly with a few nationalist knobs stuck on it is not living in the real world," he said. "We want to see an end to all killing. We want to see peace. The way to bring that out is through honest dialogue on an inclusive basis."

Mr Blair's spokesman emphasised the Prime Minister's commitment to the process, which, he said, remained in good shape. Sinn Fein had put their case in a reasonable and constructive way and there would no doubt be further meetings.

NEWS IN BRIEF

US envoy defiant about role in Ulster

Jean Kennedy Smith, the American Ambassador to Ireland who has been accused by Raymond Seitz, the former US Ambassador to London, of being an IRA apologist, was defiant about her role in the Northern Ireland peace process yesterday.

She told *The New York Times* that "history will be the judge". Friends said that she intended to stay on as ambassador in Dublin until May, when the Stormont talks are scheduled to end. "She wants to go on a high, with the talks and two IRA ceasefires under her belt," one Dublin government source said. "Most people regarded her as having a key role in persuading Clinton to give Gerry Adams a visa and in persuading Sinn Fein to come into talks. She is free to stay as long as she wants," the source added.

Date set for BSE inquiry

The independent inquiry into the previous Government's handling of the BSE epidemic in cattle, and the measures taken to protect public health, will begin next Tuesday with a preliminary hearing, chaired by Lord Justice Phillips, an Appeal Court judge, at Central Hall, Westminster. The judge said he would be describing the nature and purpose of the inquiry, how evidence would be taken, the timetable and the procedures.

Great bustard loses its perch

An attempt to reintroduce to Britain the great bustard, a bird that became extinct here in the wild more than 100 years ago, has been abandoned. The scheme, begun in the early 1970s, involved importing eggs and chicks from countries such as Russia and Germany, where the birds still exist, with the aim of re-establishing a breeding flock on MoD land on Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire. Occasional eggs laid failed to hatch.

Police trainee drops sex case

A trainee policewoman who claimed her sergeant invited her and and a girlfriend to a threesome sex session has dropped her claim for sex discrimination against North Yorkshire Police. Ingrid Lowe, 25, withdrew her claim moments before she was due to give evidence. Later she claimed she could not sustain the pressure of reliving the "horrors" of her experiences at the police station in Scarborough.

Heart attacks linked to anxiety

Men with negative worried personalities are more than three times as likely to suffer a second heart attack as those with a more positive attitude to life, according to research by the University of Antwerp. The ten-year study into 87 men who had suffered a heart attack found that 52 per cent of those who were habitually anxious suffered a second one. Among those with a stronger personality, only 12 per cent had a second attack.

Motorists tire of roundabouts

Drivers in Milton Keynes are cursed with a rare affliction: the town's 350 roundabouts are wrecking their tyres.

The AA last night identified the phenomenon as Roundabout Tyre Syndrome. In which nearside tyres wear out much more quickly than normal, taking the weight of the car as it circles around the roundabouts. There are some winners, however — the garage owners who replace the tyres.

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Colonial Direct	£66,434	£180,807
PensionStore	£66,129	£177,021
Garrumore	£64,388	£175,097
Save & Prosper Direct	£63,600	£171,000
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*Source: Money Management magazine survey, October 1997

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After church, the news: Your son was shot dead

Martin Fletcher reports on a mother's ordeal as loyalists kill fourth man in revenge attack

THE mother of the young Catholic man killed by a loyalist death squad in the small town of Maghera, Co Londonderry, at 1.20am on Sunday went to Mass a few hours later, unaware that her son had failed to return home from an evening out.

When the priest of St Mary's announced during the service that a body had been found on the church's property, Christina McCluskey began to worry. According to Kathleen Lagan, the local SDLP councillor, she hurried back to the family's house on the Sunnyside Park estate, went straight to her son's bedroom and found it empty. Shortly afterwards, the police arrived to break the news.

"The family is devastated, totally and absolutely devastated that something like this can happen to an innocent fellow going about his every-day life," a relative said.

Fergal McCluskey, 28, was the third of nine children. He had returned two weeks earlier from Boston, Massachusetts, where he had lived with his elder brother for a year while working as a labourer. He had just found a job with a plumbing firm, and gone drinking on Saturday night after playing football for the Maghera Strollers.

He was walking home alone when confronted by loyalist gunmen. They took him behind the church's youth club and shot him in the head. An eyewitness told the *Irish News* that he saw three men leaving the scene and that their faces were painted orange.

The Loyalist Volunteer Force claimed responsibility, saying that Mr McCluskey was involved in republican gun-running from America. Those who knew him scoff at that suggestion. "He was interested in nothing but football, work and socialising," said Mrs Lagan. "He was shot because he was a Catholic and because he played GAA and he was wearing a GAA jersey," said his father, Jim. GAA means Gaelic football and hurling — Catholic sports.

Mr McCluskey was the fourth defenceless Catholic gunned down since the republican Irish National Liberation Army killed Billy Wright, the LVF leader, in the Maze prison on December 27. That night, loyalists opened fire on the Glengannon Hotel in Dungannon, killing a 45-year-old doorman, Seamus Dillon. He had an IRA conviction, but that was coincidental.

On New Year's Eve, loyalists did a "spray job" on the Clifton Tavern in North Belfast, killing 31-year-old Eddie Treanor, who was drinking with his girlfriend. Just after midnight on Sunday, January 11, two gunmen drove up to the Space club in central Belfast and opened fire on the doormen. They killed 28-year-old Terry Enright, husband of Gerry Adams' niece.

The IRA's self-proclaimed role is to protect Catholics. Each murder has increased the pressure on it to break its ceasefire and retaliate. Republican terrorists finally hit back at 11am yesterday when they killed Jim Guiney in his Dunmurry carpet shop, but it was INLA and not the IRA that claimed responsibility.

Security sources have long suggested that INLA, which opposes the ceasefire, can do little without the approval of the IRA, and agreed there "has to be a suspicion" that the IRA ordered Mr Guiney's murder.

The same suspicion applies to the Ulster Defence Association, which is supposed to be observing the ceasefire while its political representatives in the Ulster Democratic Party negotiate at Stormont. The UDA is not as centralised and disciplined as the Ulster Volunteer Force, and disgruntled UDA elements have clearly colluded in some LVF attacks.

Peers challenge human rights law

BY JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

PEERS and Church leaders united last night to mount a direct challenge to the Government's controversial plan to incorporate the European Convention on Human Rights into British law.

In what would amount to a substantial weakening of the legislation, they demanded that churches, religious charities and Church schools be exempted from the Human Rights Bill. The cross-party campaign was hoping to win widespread support in a vote against the Government on the issue last night as the measure came up for its report stage in the Lords.

Under the Bill, churches and other religious bodies would be treated as any other public body and subject to the Convention. The fear is that this would open up churches or charities to legal challenge in the courts over their strict rules about employing only those who accept their beliefs.

Peers also fear that the churches' refusal to carry out homosexual marriages would be open to challenge. They fear that people could claim in the courts that their human right to privacy, to freedom from discrimination, and to other rights enshrined in the Convention, had been infringed by the churches.

The high profile campaign led by Baroness Young, the former Tory leader of the Lords, has been backed by the Bishop of Ripon, the chairman of the Church of England Board of Education, the Bishop of Lichfield, Lord Longford, and the veteran Tory peer Lord Campbell of Alloway. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, have written to Lady Young, giving their support to her campaign to raise the concerns of the churches but have not put their name to it.

Cardinal Hume said in the letter that he supported her campaign "to raise concerns about the need to safeguard the position of the churches". But he said he was not in a position to make a judgement about specific amendments.

Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, indicated last night that the Government was not prepared to make any concessions. He said told peers: "Nothing in the proceedings of the Bill has convinced us that it would be right to create any further exemptions."

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Warfare officer accused of setting his sights on Wrens


Lt Cdr Bellingham

Simon de Bruxelles on the court martial of a man dubbed 'Petty Officer Underpants'

A SENIOR naval officer made repeated sexual remarks to Wrens under his command and allowed them to address him as Petty Officer Underpants, a court martial was told yesterday.

Lieutenant Commander Bruce Bellingham, 30, a warfare officer on the destroyer *HMS Coventry*, was reprimanded after making suggestive remarks to one 21-year-old Wren over the ship's intercom during an anti-submarine exercise. Later, after an 18-year-old rating complained that he had touched her, other Wrens came forward to accuse Bellingham of inappropriate behaviour.

The court martial was told that Lieutenant Commander Bellingham called one 18-year-old Wren to his cabin and asked her to put on a sex show. Others complained that he had rubbed himself against them and made provocative comments about tattoos and body piercing.

Lieutenant Commander Bellingham, who is now attached to *HMS Drake* in Plymouth, where the court martial is being held, denies three charges of touching Wrens and five of conduct prejudicial to good order and discipline in making sexual remarks to them. Two of the four Wrens involved have since left the service.

Lieutenant Commander Brown said: "This is the conduct of an experienced naval officer towards inexperienced female ratings. It is especially important that the charges arise from a seaborne environment. The gulf in age, rank and experience between Wrens starting their sea training and a ship's warfare officer is huge.

"Officers on the bridge and the quarterdeck noticed Bellingham seemed to be paying an unusual amount of attention to some of the female ratings."

Among them was Wren Nicola Rushton, who joined the ship in September 1996. Lieutenant Commander Bellingham allegedly questioned her about her underwear and made other sexual comments. Lieutenant Commander Brown said the junior Wren did not know how to react because he was an officer.

He said: "Shortly afterwards she was standing with a number of other sailors when Bellingham passed her from behind. She moved forward to allow him to pass but he did so with the whole of his front touching her back in a way she did not think was accidental.

"In January 1997 he called her to his cabin on a divisional matter and interviewed her, appearing to record her answers on a computer. When she asked at the end if that would be all, he replied he would like her to take her clothes off and perform a sex act on herself."

The case continues.

Family terrified by fantasy owner of £1.7m home



By Richard Duce

A DESCENDANT of the W.H. Smith family who bought a £1.7 million home in Chelsea for his family was terrorised by a woman who fell in love with the property and claimed to be its real owner, a court was told yesterday.

But unbeknown to Nicholas Smith and his Japanese-born wife, Yumi, the white stucco house in Wellington Square had been viewed by Beverley Walsh when it was for sale in 1996. While the Smiths had their offer accepted, Mrs Walsh convinced herself that the property was hers. "The estate agent who showed her it said she seemed to like it but he didn't realise how much she liked it, because she then decided that she owned it," Nazir Afzal, for the prosecution, said.

There followed a series of bizarre events that made the Smiths scared of even moving in. Horseferry Road Magistrates' Court was told. The Smiths called in builders to carry out renovations on the property before they moved in, but Miss Walsh walked into the house and told workmen to leave.


The Smiths' house in Wellington Square

The site agent, Michael Vaughan, said workers from all the main utilities, including gas and electricity, had turned up to disconnect the supply to the property on instruction from Miss Walsh. Eventually Mr Smith wrote to all the companies instructing them to ignore any disconnection requests.

Mr Smith, 37, the son of the fourth Viscount Hambledon, the great-great-great grandson of the WH Smith founder, eventually had to call in police because of Miss Walsh's behaviour. In a statement he made to police, Mr Smith, an investment banker who was away on business yesterday, said: "This has made me very fearful of leaving my wife and our two children. I am very angry that my wife, who is pregnant, is so upset and feels she is not safe.

"She has even talked about going back to Tokyo, which is so unlike her. She has been in England and was so happy. We bought the house for our future, putting a lot of energy, work and money into making this a beautiful home for us and our three children."

In her statement Mrs Smith, 29, expressed doubts about the mental stability of Miss Walsh, saying: "My fear is that she will come to the house when I am alone with my children, or when I walk down the street that she will hurt the children. I would be so scared that each time I left the house I would be turning up to see who was there. I often sit down and think of the uncertainty and end up crying, not knowing what will happen."

ANDRÉ CAMARA


Mrs Smith with Kenji, 2, and Taro, 4½, outside the house yesterday: "My fear is that she will hurt the children"

Miss Walsh, 40, who described herself as a barrister, was eventually arrested on November 7 last year and at a previous hearing denied harrassing the Smiths.

Helen Parkinson, counsel for the defence after Miss Walsh sacked her solcitors, said her client would claim that her conduct was reasonable "because she says she has documents of ownership which are lodged with the bank."

Lorraine Morgan, the magistrate, was then shown Land Registry documents that proved sole title was vested in Mr and Mrs Smith.

She said there was a case for Miss Walsh, of Barnes, south-west London, to answer and issued a warrant for her arrest for failing to answer to charges under the new anti-stalking Protection from Harassment Act.

Shop raid 'was cover for revenge acid attack'

By Kathryn Knight

A HUSBAND staged a fake shop raid to spray his wife's face with acid as revenge for her ending their marriage, a court was told yesterday.

Paul Newton, wearing a balaclava and crash helmet, emptied paintstripper and acid over his wife in a "persistent and cruel attack" after bursting into the shop where she worked and pretending to rob the takings, Paul Mann, for the prosecution, told Nottingham Crown Court.

Jacqueline Newton's face and neck were left black and peeling and she suffered 10 per cent burns. She had no idea the attacker was her husband, and appealed on television for help to catch the attacker.

Her husband had chased her into the back room of the Wine Rack store in Nottingham, continuing to squirt acid in her face, but then snatched notes from the till. In fact, the whole intention was to hurt Mrs Newton, Mr Mann said. 'After 15 years of marriage Mrs Newton had recently left her husband. He could not come to terms with that."

Police found a Flash detergent bottle in the shop. In the days leading to the incident, Mr Newton had bought Flash, a balaclava and a distinctive Italian motorcycle helmet, the court was told.

Mr Newton, from Mapperley, Nottingham, denies causing grievous bodily harm with intent and robbery of £65, cheques and credit-card slips.

The trial continues.


Jacqueline Newton: had 10 per cent burns

Chef denies assaulting girl, 15

A CELEBRITY chef twice indecently assaulted a 15-year-old girl working at a restaurant, a jury was told yesterday. Steve Saunders told her that he wanted to "teach her everything" about sex.

Cambridge Crown Court was told that the incidents took place on New Year's Eve, 1996, at a restaurant near Cambridge. Mr Saunders, 36, a former Young Chef of the Year and a regular guest on the television show *Ready Steady Cook*, denies indecent assault.

The girl, who is now aged 16 and cannot be identified for legal reasons, told the jury that she was employed as a casual worker at the restaurant and that Mr Saunders had been "very flirtatious" during the evening.

He had approached her and asked her to see him in an office, where he had leaned over her shoulder and locked the door. "He moved close to try and kiss me and placed his hands around my waist. I was saying things like he was married, his wife was downstairs and that I was only 15."

He had "moved in" to kiss her again and pushed his tongue into her mouth. She had moved away and said that she wanted to go downstairs.

Shortly afterwards he had asked her to see him in the office again. She had assumed he was going to tell her not to say anything about the earlier incident. Again he had moved in to kiss her. She said he had lifted her skirt and tried to pull down her tights. She had pushed him away and repeated that she was only 15. "He was saying he wanted to teach me everything."

The trial continues.


Saunders: said to be in flirtatious mood

Rock 'named for Diana'

By Emma Wilkins and Robin Lodge

RUSSIAN scientists want to honour Diana, Princess of Wales, by naming a new mineral after her, according to reports.

Moscow's Itar-Tass news agency said yesterday that geologists had called the rock, found in Siberia, "dianite" in her honour. The pale blue substance was found last year in Siberia and will be used to make jewellery, according to the agency.

However, the International Mineralogical Association, which registers the names of all new minerals, said it had never even heard of the substance — let alone registered it. Alan Criddle, British member of the IMA, said the committee required stringent tests before any new mineral could be registered.

"If a new mineral had been discovered in Russia last year, I would have thought I would have heard of it by now," he said. If "dianite" were to be submitted before the committee, it would probably fail because minerals were usually named after people who have made an "outstanding contribution to mineralogy", Mr Criddle said.

"We try to avoid names of politicians, heads of state and members of royal families because it encourages some scientists to try to ingratiate themselves." Roger Harding, director of the Gemological Association and General Testing Laboratory of Great Britain, said someone could call a bluish rock anything they liked but it would not be the same as having it officially named.

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Extension for church wins court approval

BY RUTH GLEDHILL

THE vicar of a 19th-century church in a Dover suburb has been given the go-ahead to build an extension to his church to house his growing congregation. Objections were overruled by Judge Richard Walker, the Commissary General of Canterbury Commissary Court, after an ecclesiastical court hearing.

The court, which met last November, was told that the congregation at the church of St Peter and St Paul at River, had grown from about 50 in the 1980s to an average of 160. At special services, such as Mothering Sunday, harvest festivals and Christmas, up to 300 people struggled to get into the tiny building.

In his judgment, published yesterday, Judge Walker said that "a worshipping community committed to outreach and growth" was hampered by lack of accommodation.

Green belt sites lined up

Nick Nuttall reports as huge swathes of English countryside are earmarked for new homes

SOME of the first big releases of green belt land are being lined up across the country as councils try to meet government forecasts that England will need 4.4 million new homes by 2016. Several local authorites have put forward proposals to sacrifice hundreds of hectares of green belt to development. They include Chester, Bradford, Bromsgrove and Barnsley, it emerged yesterday.

It is also feared that John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, will tomorrow authorise Newcastle's plan to use 480 hectares of green belt for 2,500 homes and a business park between Gosforth and Hazelrigg.

The news is likely to intensify the political row emerging over the scale of the 25-year building forecasts and where the new homes will be built. Tom Brake, the Liberal Democrats' land use and planning spokesman, said yesterday: "These first proposed releases are just the beginning unless the Government sorts out this issue."

The Government is facing backbench opposition from between 100 and 200 Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat MPs, spearheaded by, among other, David Drew, the Labour MP for Stroud. The simmering row will come to head tomorrow when the House of Commons environment select committee will begin hearing evidence on the housing issue.

Tony Juniper, campaigns director of Friends of the Earth, said yesterday that the Government was putting itself in the same politically fraught position as the previous Government had with road building. "Labour have never had so many rural marginals and these will be vulnerable. The last Government thought it could boost the economy by building more roads. This one thinks it can boost GNP and get people back to work by allowing housebuilders to pour concrete over the countryside."

Official forecasts project that 4.4 million new households will form by 2016 and that half of the homes needed will be in the countryside. But experts claim the Government has accepted revised, estimates of over five million. The fresh estimates are based on studies by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Richard Best, its director, said yesterday that, on top of the 4.4 million needed due to demographic changes, marital break-up and people living longer, 200,000 would be for immigrants from Europe.

The foundation also estimates that the Government will have to find room for new homes for the half million individuals and families who are either sharing houses, living in bed and breafast accomodation or sleeping rough on the streets.

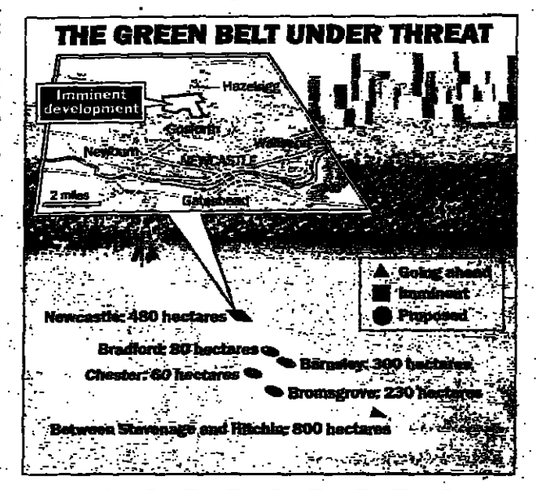
More homes are also likely to be needed as a result of the demolition of 1960s housing estates which are being replaced with low-rise homes with gardens.

Patrick Clarke, of Llewelyn-Davies, a firm of London planning consultants, said research carried out on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, challenged the need to build so many homes in the countryside. Studies in the North West have found cities there may have 36 times more capacity for new houses than local authorities believe.

London's allocation for more homes is 630,000 and the councils have so far managed to identify sites for 234,000. But Dr Clarke said they had found sites for 100,000 more, all within a 10-minute walk of "London's town centres".

He added that many of the new households forecast would be for single adults who would prefer to live in higher density housing close to amenities and public transport.

Dr Clarke said it was a myth that high housing densities meant poor living standards. Kensington and Chelsea, in west London, has some of the highest in the country.




SIMON WALKER

One of Galliano's luxurious creations for Dior

Galliano glories in pure escapism

FROM GRACE BRADBERRY IN PARIS

JOHN GALLIANO set new records for extravagance yesterday in his show at Paris fashion week, transforming the Paris Opera into the setting for a lavish costume ball. His spring/summer collection for Dior was the most fantastic yet, opening with a cascade of rose petals and a black crinoline dress so vast that fashion editors ducked as it moved past.

The British designer's detractors have complained that there is no place for modern women to wear his clothes. Perhaps the show was intended to inspire society hostesses to invent the right occasions.

Galliano's inspiration was the Marquesa Casati, a legendary hostess early this century. She had palaces in Venice and Paris and her parties were decorated by Leon Bakst, costume designer for the Ballet Russes.

The collection — pure escapism — made a stunning world tour with outfits named after places from Buenos Aires to Garsington. It took in a giant kimono opera cape embroidered with outsize roses, a coat woven from gold and blue threads, supple-waisted tango dresses and a halter-necked travel outfit named Cunard Line.

Not even the hostesses at the show travel in this kind of style any more. But then nobody comes to Galliano for a reality check.

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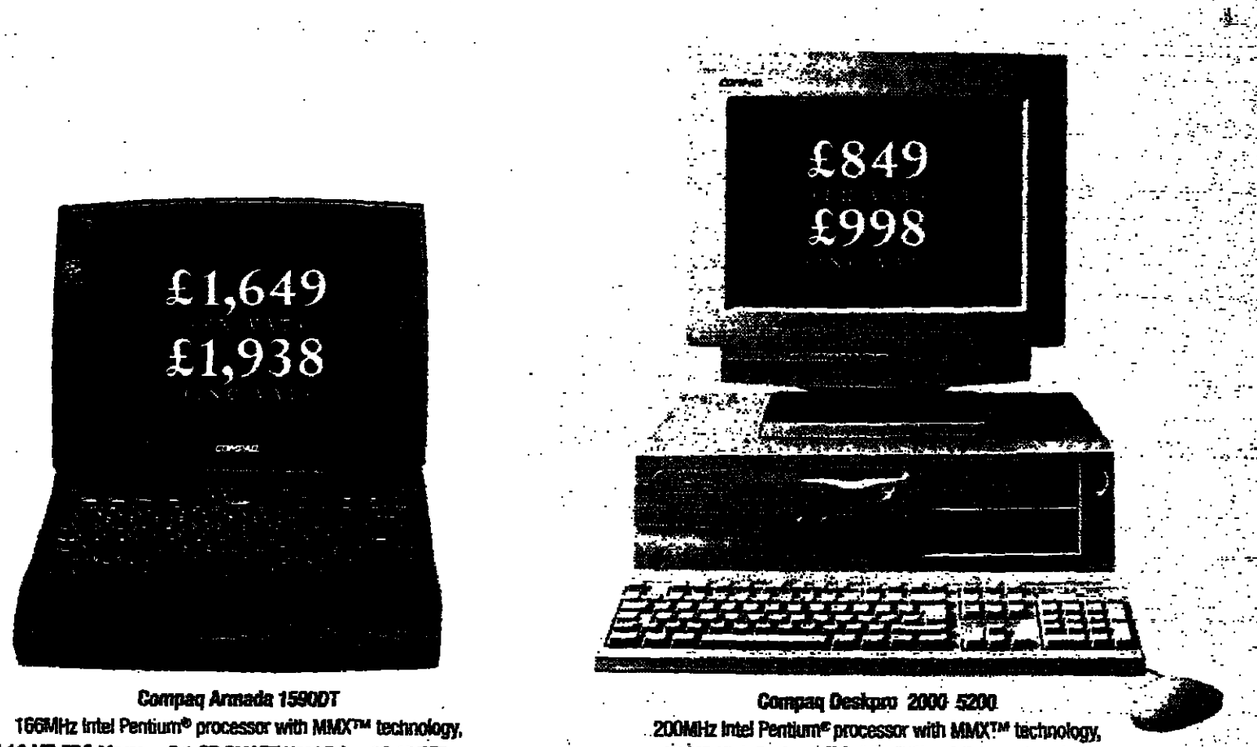
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Branson co-pilot has operation after fall

Balloon flight is still on despite loss of engineer, writes Daniel McGrory

THE man who was badly injured in a sky-diving accident as he prepared for Richard Branson's latest attempt to fly round the world by balloon last night underwent an emergency operation.

Before having surgery, Alex Ritchie told the Virgin chief to take off later this week without him.

Mr Branson was among the first to visit his co-pilot in the Middlesex Hospital yesterday after he was flown by air ambulance from Morocco, where the Virgin team is planning its launch.

Also at his bedside was the third crew member, Per Lindstrand, who was alongside Mr Ritchie, the balloon engineer, as they parachuted from 13,000 feet at the weekend, and his wife, Jill, 52, a teacher from Harwich, Essex, and two grown-up children.

Mr Branson, whose visit came at the end of the day's proceedings in a libel action at the High Court, last night insisted that the flight would still go ahead, but with "great difficulty". Speaking outside the hospital, he said: "Alex is the one who designed the capsule and engine, he has been solid throughout and is an enormous loss.

"We will decide in a few days how we will move forward, but obviously we will move forward. What really matters at the moment is that he is going to recover."



Branson yesterday: he hoped to continue flight

Mr Branson's legal tussle may yet prevent him from joining the challenge, which should take place within the next ten days, depending on the weather.

A senior Virgin executive, Will Whitehorn, who met Mr Ritchie from the air ambulance, said last night: "He is in remarkable condition considering what he has been through. He was 9,000 feet from the ground when he began to realise his chute wasn't going to open.

"He did everything he could to get it to open and he partially succeeded before he hit the ground, which is what saved his life.

"He has one leg fractured. The other leg, although it is damaged, is not broken. He has a fractured pelvis and a couple of different fractures in one arm.

"We understand that as soon as Alex was conscious he was urging the team to carry on without him."

A hospital spokesman said: "Doctors last night operated on Mr Ritchie to repair his pelvis and stop some internal bleeding. They also put his right leg in traction. There are other fractures but they will get around to those when they reassess his condition after today. He is stable and has been talking."

Fergus Paterson, consultant orthopaedic surgeon, said last night that Mr Ritchie would have to stay in intensive care until doctors were able to assess the extent of his injuries. He added that, depending on their findings, a full recovery could take between four and six months.

Mr Ritchie's two fellow pilots will decide later today who will take his place. The most likely candidate is Rory McCarthy, who was part of the original line-up last year until he fell ill with pneumonia. A millionaire businessman, Mr McCarthy holds the world altitude sky-diving record and is a shareholder in the company which built the balloon.



Alex Ritchie, after a jump near Marrakesh last month: he faces a long convalescence

Virgin head denies he is 'raking up dirt'

By Joanna Bale

RICHARD BRANSON denied yesterday that he had jumped to the wrong conclusion in alleging that a director of Camelot had attempted to bribe him to withdraw his bid to run the National Lottery.

In a heated exchange with Richard Ferguson, QC, the chairman of Virgin also denied deliberately "raking up dirt" that was irrelevant to his High Court libel action.

Mr Ferguson suggested to Mr Branson that he had wrongly accused Guy Snowden, chairman of the American gaming firm GTech and a director of Camelot, of attempted bribery, arguing that there was no mention of money. Mr Branson replied that the implication had been "completely and utterly clear".

Mr Branson, 47, is suing Mr Snowden, GTech and Robert Rendine, the company's public relations director, for saying that he lied about the attempted bribe. Mr Snowden, 52, is suing Mr Branson for alleging that he tried to bribe him.

The case continues.

Grieving parents challenge hypnotism

By Adam Fresco

A COUPLE yesterday asked the High Court to order a new inquest into their daughter's death after being hypnotised on stage.

Sharron Tabarn, 24, was said to have died through natural causes, but Kevin and Margaret Harper want an open verdict to allow for a link with the hypnosis.

Mrs Tabarn attended the show at a public house in Leyland, Lancashire, where she worked. She took part in several acts, including singing like Madonna. William Rose, for the family, said: "She was brought out of the trance by being told she would be receiving a 10,000 volt shock."

The hypnotist did not know she had a phobia of electricity after a shock as a child, and that her father was injured after being electrocuted a few weeks earlier.

Mrs Tabarn, who had been drinking, was found dead at home next morning. An inquest concluded that death had been caused by her lungs filling with fluid and the inhalation of vomit.

Mr Rose said there was evidence, or potential evidence, that stage hypnotism "does in some subjects induce levels of panic attacks, nausea, vomiting and shaking fits, which may go towards explaining why this young lady's body did not eject vomit from her lungs." The case continues today.

Spelling out the Oxford howlers

By Helen Johnstone

SPELLING howlers by English literature students were disclosed yesterday as a former tutor attacked "complacency" at Oxford University.

Bernard Richards, an English tutor at Brasenose College for 25 years, resigned last summer. Now he has published a 142-word list of the most common mistakes collected from errors made by students sitting their English literature finals.

They include "greatfully", "rediculous", "padel" and "dosen't". Students also confused simple words such as "stile" with "style", and "cannon" with "canion".

The examples were taken from 1995, but Mr Richards said that some occurred year after year.

Writing in the latest issue of the *Oxford Magazine*, a monthly publication used as a sounding board for dons and tutors, he said: "The evidence is quite alarming, with no significant improvement over the years." He blames complacency and a self-congratulatory attitude in certain quarters of the university.

"There is not much of a future for any language if it is left exclusively in the hands of the careless and the ignorant. In theory, these students should be some of the best in the university, and indeed the world, when it comes to spelling." No one was available to comment for the university.



Megan Broadhurst with JoJo: "I am outraged"

Adoption ban on mixed-race family

By Mark Henderson

A WHITE couple who adopted two mixed-race children have been told that they cannot adopt any more because their family is now neither black nor white.

Social workers have advised Megan and Steve Broadhurst, from King's Heath, Birmingham, that they would not place children of any race with them because of guidelines imposed since the couple adopted Rickie and JoJo in the 1980s. Under new guidelines, children are, where possible, placed with a family of the same race.

The Broadhursts cannot adopt black or mixed-race children because they are white, nor can they adopt white children, because of the mixed-race children. Mrs Broadhurst said: "It bordered on racial farce, and left me shaken and outraged because all my life I've understood the importance of the home and a strong family." The family are not well off, but they had hoped to provide a good home to another child.

"Steve and I aren't rich — we go camping in Britain when other families go abroad for their holidays," she said. "But Rickie and JoJo are our lives. We're proud of how they have grown up, despite a not-too-promising start in life."

Birmingham City Council said that it had had little choice but to turn the couple down as adoptive parents because of the provisions of the 1990 Children Act. Louise Wood, assistant director of children's services, said: "We are obliged by law to stick to its provisions that race, culture and religion are important." Janet Denny, a planning adviser for Fostering and Adoption Services, said: "We have to place children where their culture, religion and race needs will be understood."



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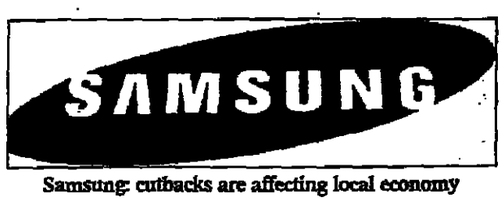
When South Korea catches cold, Surbiton sneezes

BY PHILIP DELVES BROUGHTON

THE economies of the Far East have been running a high fever for some time. Now the Home Counties are starting to sneeze. Yesterday's announcement by Samsung, the South Korean conglomerate, that it is to cut back on and relocate staff from its London headquarters, based in Brentford and Surbiton, deepens the gloom in the corner of the South East known as Little Korea.

New Malden, a couple of miles north east of Surbiton, is the centre of the largest Korean community in Europe. A large proportion of Britain's 20,000 resident Koreans live round here. Samsung and the Bank of Korea in the City are just two of the major employers.

Along the High Street are Korean supermarkets, fast-food bars and restaurants serving up treats such as *gopchang bokum* — fried cow's intestine with special sauce. The car park of Waitrose is clogged with Korean women chatting in their native tongue before piling their shopping into Daewoos. When Koreans first started to arrive in Britain in the mid-1970s, they gravitated towards Wimbledon where the South Korean ambassador had his residence. Since then they have shifted south west.



Samsung: cutbacks are affecting local economy

Mr Y. S. Dong owns an emporium called Mace on New Malden's High Street, selling everything Far East Asian tourists most like about Britain: Royal Doulton china, Burberrys scarves and jumpers and reproduction classical furniture. Mr Dong also edits the *Weekly Informer*, one of New Malden's three Korean newspapers.

"Normally my shop is crowded," he says, looking from behind his desk at an empty floor. "There are no more Korean tourists, and the Koreans who live here are very nervous. They have all lost money because of the devalued currency." Turnover in the Korean shops is down by half.

Across the road, Mr Dong is building a new three-storey shop, the top floor of which will be given over to function rooms and teaching rooms for the local Korean community. Gazing across at the unfinished site, he says: "I need things to pick up again."

Past the Lazy Dog Fish Bar — an unfortunate name given that a lazy dog's chances of avoiding the pot are still slim in rural South Korea — the mood at Korean Services Travel, which organise business flights for Samsung employees, is equally blue. "All the Koreans who used to travel business class now travel economy," says Eun-Mee, one of the travel agents.

Ian Manders, the chairman of the New Malden neighbourhood committee, says: "The Koreans have brought a great deal of vitality to this area. It will be a terrible loss if they left."

The prognosis however, is grim. Eun-Mee's father, the Reverend P. K. Kim is the pastor for the Korean Congregation of the International Presbyterian Church. He has been in Surrey since 1970 before the big companies arrived. "More Koreans are coming to church now than ever before," says Mr Kim. "It is because they are facing very hard times."

Samsung jobs threat, page 28

Allason sues TV satire show for 'vicious libel'

Former MP claims remark in book was no joke. **Peter Foster** reports

RUPERT ALLASON, spy writer, former Tory MP and amateur lawyer, took on his 17th libel action yesterday when he sued the makers of the television satire *Have I Got News For You* for calling him a "conniving little shit".

The remark, published in a book to accompany the BBC series, was, Mr Allason said, a "vicious libel" and a "revolting slur".

Mr Allason, representing himself at the High Court in London, opened the case by apologising to the jury for any shortcomings there might be in his amateur advocacy. Glancing to his right, at the bank of BBC lawyers which included Charles Gray, QC, a junior counsel and seven other suited individuals all carrying large black document cases, Mr Allason invited the jury to study the full might of the BBC's litigation department.

By contrast, Mr Allason came armed only with a satchel, a glass of water, an Oxford dictionary and a cheap plastic pen. He began by showing the jury the offending page of the book, *Have I Got 1997 For You*, a diary produced to accompany the series.

Reading from the book, Mr Allason pointed at a picture of himself under which was written: "A maverick Tory MP who, when he's writing spy novels, is called Nigel West and, when he's voting against his own Government, is called something quite unprintable. Indeed, given Mr Allason's fondness for pursuing libel actions, there are also excellent legal reasons for not referring to him as a conniving little shit."

The referrence was to his opposition to the Maastricht Treaty and his refusal to support the Government in a Commons no-confidence vote on the issue in 1993. That opposition, Mr Allason said, reflected his determination to stick to his guns and keep his promise to his Torbay constituents and political supporters.

He did not deserve to be defamed by people who thought it was clever to sneer at those in public life.

Mr Allason told Mr Justice Popplewell that he had heard of the remark through a telephone call from his elderly mother and had immediately complained to the BBC, asking it to remove or reprint the offending page.

Mr Allason, who lost his seat by 12 votes at the last election, said that he refused to see the remark as a joke. "This isn't a jolly jape. There are rogues and scoundrels included in this book, including Robert Maxwell, but none of them has a description approaching mine."

The judge, jury and assembled lawyers then settled down to watch an episode of the programme from May 1996 in which Mr Allason appeared. There were stifled guffaws as Mr Allason was seen describing footage of a rat as "another government minister" and Ian Hislop, one of the show's regular panellists, traded satirical jokes with the chairman, Angus Deayton.

When Mr Allason's team eventually ran out winners, Mr Hislop, Editor of *Private Eye* and no stranger to libel proceedings, was heard to say: "Beaten by Rupert Allason. That bodes well for the next time we meet in court."

The court also saw a video of Mr Allason appearing on a chat show hosted by Clive Anderson, a former barrister. When asked by the host what newspapers had written about him to deserve being sued, Mr Allason replied: "Usually the truth." Questioned by Mr Gray, Mr Allason was asked what he meant by the remark. "It is what is known as a joke," he replied.

Mr Allason conceded the knockabout nature of *Have I Got News For You* and said he had enjoyed appearing on it, but would not accept that the phrase "conniving little shit" was in the spirit of the show.

Mr Gray then suggested that Mr Allason had, in the past, enjoyed using harsh words about the reputations of others. "I hope that the people that I've been critical of have been crooks by and large," Mr Allason replied.

Mr Gray then produced a transcript of an interview in which he said Mr Allason had been insulting about a number of prominent public figures, including Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare and the former hostage Terry Waite.

The case continues.

A GAME OF TWO HALVES



'Beaten by Rupert Allason's team. That will bode well for the next time that we meet in court'

Ian Hislop, after losing to him on *Have I Got News For You*

ANDRÉ CAMARA


Rupert Allason, former Tory MP for Torbay, arriving at the High Court yesterday

Trust fund to pay for au pair's appeal

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

THE trust fund set up to clear Louise Woodward's name will be used to finance her appeal to overturn her conviction for the involuntary manslaughter of Matthew Eappen, her solicitors said yesterday.

The statement, from Quinn Melville, a Liverpool-based firm representing the Louise Woodward and Family Trust, comes as the appeals from the au pair and the prosecution are expected to be lodged with the Massachusetts Supreme Court. Miss Woodward, 19, from Elton, Cheshire, is still in the United States and is expected to attend the three-part appeal due to start on March 6.

Until now, the costs of her defence have been met by the EF au pair agency, which placed her with the Eappens. Paul Barrow, of Quinn Melville, said: "When EF first stepped into the case, Louise was unable to pay for even a small portion of the legal fees and costs involved in the preparation of an effective defence. Louise would like to express her thanks to EF for its generosity at her hour of greatest need."

Mr Barrow added: "Louise is enormously thankful that so many friends and supporters have been as generous as they have been in making it possible for her to defend herself against charges that have not a grain of truth to them."

CORRECTIONS

The British School of Archaeology in Athens is to appeal for £1 million to fund research and restoration work at the Minoan palace of Knossos in Crete, discovered by Sir Arthur Evans in 1900. The appeal is not, as reported on January 12, to raise money to celebrate the discovery. The photograph accompanying the report was not that of Sir Arthur, and we apologise for the errors.

☐ An order for Mr David Lawrence's children to be returned to France (report, November 17) was made by consent, and the children are living with his wife in France. She has not "lost" them, as the headline wrongly suggested.

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Police investigate 40-year-old child sex abuse claims

Children's homes in seven Manchester authorities are involved in latest allegations, writes **Russell Jenkins**

POLICE in Manchester have opened an investigation into allegations of child sex abuse in more than seven children's homes that date back 40 years.

Detectives began Operation Cleopatra after they received more than 48 separate allegations from people now aged in their thirties, forties and fifties; one dates back to 1958. Much of the impetus for the investigation stemmed from interviews conducted for inquiries into sexual abuse in North Wales, Cheshire and Merseyside. Detective Superintendent Peter Stelfox, of Greater Manchester Police, said that anyone with complaints about the treatment they received in children's homes in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s should come forward.

"We are in the early stages of this inquiry and are beginning the painstaking process of taking detailed statements from complainants. If there are other people who have been abused in children's homes in Greater Manchester we would like to hear from them."

A team of eight detectives has set up an inquiry headquarters at Bredbury, Stockport, to process the complaints. Mr Stelfox said that, because of the number, the investigation was likely to take up to a year. He declined to give details of individual cases or the homes involved, beyond saying that police were liaising with at least seven authorities. He said that there was no evidence to indicate the existence of a paedophile ring at work. However, the allegations all relate to the abuse of young males aged between 11 and 18.

He said there were a number of difficulties to be overcome in carrying out the investigation: people's recollection of events was vague and some of the homes involved had closed. Finding records from the relevant period represented an administration problem and would be time-consuming.

Mr Stelfox said: "It will be difficult to gain a conviction on an offence dating back to 1958, but it has been done in other parts of the country. They have mounted operations such as this and they have gained convictions. It is not impossible. It requires a high level of co-operation between police and social services."

Bob Lewis, Director of Social Services for Stockport, said that all the local authorities in the Manchester area were pledged to help the investigation. He said that those responsible for abuse in a council-owned children's home must be made to answer for their "totally unacceptable behaviour".

Mr Lewis said that the culture of such homes was now radically different from that of the 1960s and 1970s. "We must put this into some context. Thousands of children have been looked after very successfully during the same period of time. That does not mean that we condone any young person being abused. It is unacceptable."

Hostage Briton probably dead, parents are told

By Emma Wilkins

THE parents of a Briton taken hostage in Cambodia nearly two years ago have been told by Scotland Yard that their son is probably dead.

Despite the news, Roy and Betty Howes refuse to give up hope for their son, Christopher, a mine-clearance expert who was kidnapped by Khmer Rouge guerrillas in March 1996. Police now believe that Mr Howes, a veteran of the Falklands conflict, was killed within months, if not weeks, of his abduction.

At a four-hour Foreign Office briefing last week, Roy Howes, his daughter, Pat Phillips, and Christopher's cousin, Andrew Taylor, were shown video interviews carried out during a recent visit by a team of police officers to Cambodia. Mr Howes, 70, from Bristol, said he was impressed with the investigation but could not give up hope of seeing his son alive.

"They suspect, on the force of the evidence, that Christopher probably has been murdered," he said. "It was a very good briefing, but I found it very depressing. I was quite impressed with the work the police have done, but I can't break faith with my son. I don't think people would expect me to.

"Christopher went out there to help, and that he should fall prey to those people is too dreadful for words. I have got to hope against hope that Christopher is out there somewhere, and I am trying not to be too pessimistic.

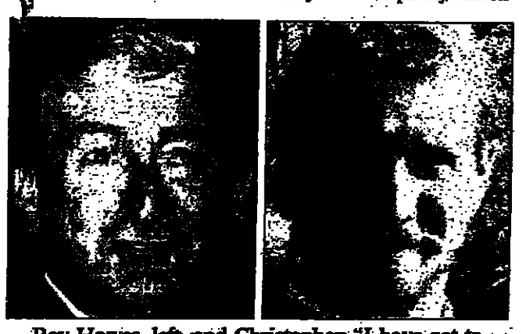
"The Khmer Rouge are led by men with diseased minds. They are completely unconcerned about individual human lives or the value of people."

A Foreign Office spokesman said officials would continue trying to find out what had happened to Mr Howes. "Obviously, it is deeply discouraging for the family after 22 months, but there is no proof of life."

The briefing was held to update the family on a trip by Metropolitan Police negotiators to Cambodia and Thailand before Christmas. They interviewed Major Phuan Phy, a Khmer Rouge defector, who told them that he saw the body of Houn Hourth, Mr Howes's interpreter, three days after he was murdered. Mr Howes, a former Royal Engineer, was helping to train a group of 27 Cambodian mine-clearers when he was seized.

Defectors from the guerrilla group have since said that a local general was furious at the work the mine-clearers were doing. The captors released the rest of the team after Mr Howes offered himself and his interpreter in exchange.

Last August a Thai newspaper reported that Mr Howes had been killed. But soon afterwards it was claimed that the Khmer Rouge was forcing him to make bombs, and later that he had been released safe and well.



Roy Howes, left, and Christopher: "I have got to hope against hope that he is out there somewhere"



DAVID BURNER

Jason with his delighted parents. Mr Banyard joked: "If you want a job doing properly, do it yourself"

Surprise baby beats all the odds

AFTER 23 years of marriage and a decade of failed fertility treatment, Annette and Michael Banyard had long given up hope of having a baby (writes Kathryn Knight). So when Mrs Banyard went to her doctor complaining of stomach pains, the diagnosis was a total surprise. Now, at the age of 40, she has given birth to a healthy 6lb 3oz boy, Jason, after a natural pregnancy.

The couple, from Barton in Fabis, Nottinghamshire, met as teenagers and married in 1965. After two miscarriages, Mrs Banyard was told she could never conceive naturally as her fallopian tubes were blocked. The couple then underwent a variety of fertility treatments before giving up hope. Instead, they set about creating a new life, selling their home to buy a narrowboat on the Trent and concentrating their energies on their careers with a security company. Then Mrs Banyard went to her doctor and found she was two months pregnant.

"I had no idea," "After everything that's happened, pregnancy was the last thing on my mind." Mr Banyard, 42, said: "I think living on the narrowboat has done us a lot of good. The air is clean and there are no stresses. And there's a lot to be said for the old adage that if you want a job doing properly, do it yourself."

Martin Powell, the consultant who attended Mrs Banyard's pregnancy at the Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, said: "It is remarkable. To become pregnant at this point is a minor miracle. We simply do not know why these sort of pregnancies happen."

Mothers' views on maternity 'ignored'

By Mark Henderson

MOTHERS' opinions on maternity services are routinely ignored by doctors, nurses and midwives, who patronise and belittle them, says a report for the National Childbirth Trust published today.

Women who sit with health professionals on maternity service liaison committees to give a user's view said that they often felt invisible and had great difficulty making their voices heard. Two thirds did not feel that they were effective members of their committees, and fewer than half said they had the confidence to challenge the opinions of doctors and midwives.

Parent representatives were looked down upon by health professionals, and did not have their views taken seriously. "Although my reception at committee meetings has improved, it has taken all of seven years there to get even some members to remember my name, let alone ask my opinion," one mother said. "It is easy for them to 'blank' me since I am almost the only non-medical person there."

The National Childbirth Trust will hold a conference today, addressed by Tessa Jowell, the Public Health Minister, that will call for wider training of user representatives on liaison committees and maternity user groups. The trust's Voices project, partly funded by the Department of Health, has already trained more than 100 user representatives. It aims to identify ways of making women feel more able to get their views across.

Voluntary work feels the loss of youth

By Mark Henderson

YOUNG people are increasingly unlikely to volunteer for charity or community work, and those who do are giving up much less time than their counterparts of seven years ago. Older volunteers are making up the deficit.

According to a report by the Institute for Volunteering Work, sponsored by the Home Office and the Charities Aid Foundation, 43 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds did voluntary work in 1997, against 55 per cent in 1991. Today's volunteers give an average of 42 minutes a week, two hours less. Young volunteers are also increasingly likely to give up their time because of the skills they will learn, rather than out of altruism.

The total number of volunteers fell by 1.4 million in the six years since the institute's last survey, and the slump is greatest in the 18-24 age group. For the first time, the percentage of 18 to 24-year-olds volunteering was below the national average of 48 per cent.

Elisabeth Hoodless, executive director of Community Service Volunteers, said the findings did not reflect its experience of seeing large numbers of young people eager to do voluntary work. She said that youth apathy was more likely to result from poorly organised projects for volunteers.

Anti-drugs chief urges young to face the facts

By Mark Henderson

TWO new government-sponsored drugs information booklets aimed at young people were introduced yesterday.

The two booklets, *Drugs — the Facts* for 11 to 14-year olds and *The Score — Facts about Drugs* for 14 to 16-year-olds, offer practical advice on the effects and dangers of drugs from glue to heroin.

They are written in an engaging and colourful style that aims not to preach to or patronise readers.

Keith Hellawell, the UK Drugs Co-ordinator and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, who took the booklets to Haverstock School in Chalk Farm, North London, yesterday, said: "Getting no-nonsense factual information about drugs to young people is vital if we want to help them to reject drugs now or in the future. One of the biggest problems young people face today is the huge amount of misinformation and myths circulating about drugs. Because there are serious risks to drug-taking, it's essential that we have guides of this nature."

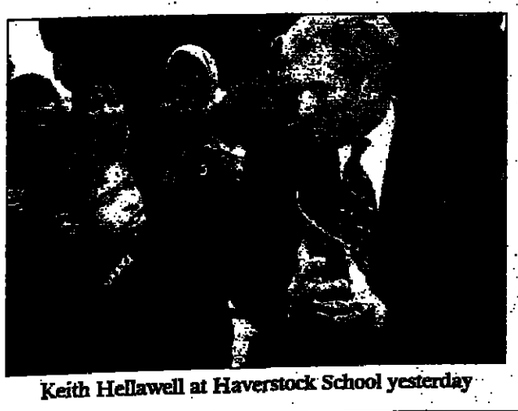
The pamphlets emphasise the dangers of relying on friends for information about drugs, which is often misleading and underestimates the dangers. Rather than adopting a "Just Say No" approach, the new booklets rely on offering accurate information about risks and side-effects, as well as explaining the reasons why so many young people choose to take drugs, smoke or drink alcohol.

Case studies underline the dangers of drug-taking — a girl aged 16 convicted of possession of Ecstasy with intent to supply, a 14-year-old boy who saw his friend nearly die after sniffing lighter fuel and a 16-year-old girl who was caught shoplifting to feed her amphetamine habit. Both pamphlets include advice on first-aid in an emergency, the law, and "problem pages" with common questions and answers about drugs.

Drugs — the Facts has articles on drugs and sport and on standing up for oneself if offered drugs, while *The Score — Facts about Drugs* features a 15-page drugs directory, with information on rarer ones such as the sedative GHB as well as cannabis, Ecstasy and alcohol.

"The pamphlets were extensively researched with young people and targeted accordingly," a spokesman for the Health Education Authority said. "We are taking the view that we realise there are drugs out there, and that children will be exposed to them. We just want to help them to make the right choice."

☐ Copies of *Drugs — The Facts* and *The Score — Facts about Drugs* can be obtained free by ringing the 24-hour National Drugs Helpline on 0800 776600. Calls are free. Schools can order the pamphlets (the first 250 are free) from Solo Communications on 01304 614731 (tel) or 01304 617727 (fax)



Keith Hellawell at Haverstock School yesterday

Furniture cure for weed problem

By Nigel Hawkes
Science Editor

FURNITURE makers have found a use for one of the world's most environmentally damaging weeds, the water hyacinth. Furniture made in Thailand from the tough stems of the plants, which clog waterways in many tropical countries, is on display at the Furniture Show which opened yesterday at the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham.

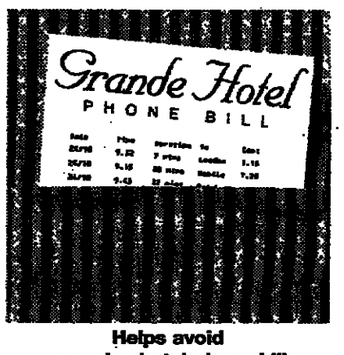
The furniture — armchairs, a sofa and a coffee table — is an attempt to turn an environmental disaster into something worthwhile. Neil Hamilton, managing director of The Cane Company, which is importing the new range, said that waterways in south and central Thailand were becoming clogged with the weed, which is tough and fast-growing. It was introduced to the country a century ago by King Rama V, who saw the plant on a visit to Indonesia and was attracted to its lilac flowers and shiny green leaves. Now it has become a scourge.

The water hyacinth has also spread its fronds across Africa, colonising the shores of Lake Victoria at astonishing speed since it arrived ten years ago, floating down the Kagera River from Rwanda. Now more than 80 per cent of Uganda's shoreline is infested, obstructing fishing, disturbing fish-spawning grounds and blocking the inlets of a hydroelectric plant at Owen Falls.

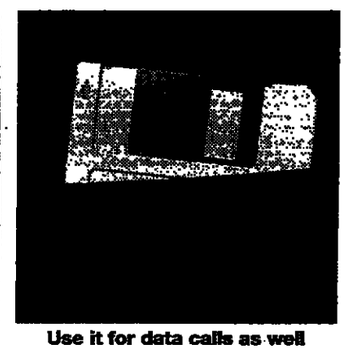
The plant, *Eichhornia crassipes*, is used in British ponds as an ornamental one, but does not run riot. Many ideas have been advanced for controlling it, from herbicides to pests that thrive on it. But mechanical harvesting is the current method in most places.

"The stems are as tough as old boots," Mr Hamilton said. "They are sliced, plaited and then woven around wicker spokes to make the furniture."

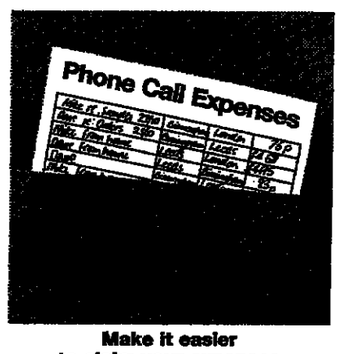
A water hyacinth armchair sells for about £425. "If they can cover the cost of clearance by selling the water hyacinth, it will be a big help," Mr Hamilton said.



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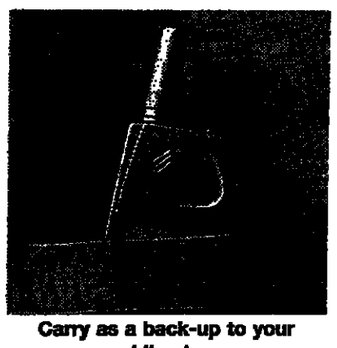
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Lawyers resist 'pay before you earn' tax

Frances Gibb on claims that a Treasury plan would bankrupt small firms

THE legal profession is launching an offensive against government plans to make lawyers and other professionals pay tax on work in progress, regardless of whether they have been paid for it. At present, they are taxed on the income they receive in the relevant tax year.

Barristers and solicitors have said that the Treasury plans would spell financial ruin for many small law firms and barristers. The Bar also says would-be lawyers from modest backgrounds would be deterred from entering the law and there would be an exodus from the profession.

Heather Hallett, QC, chairman of the Bar Council, said: "These proposals could spell financial disaster for many barristers." Those doing legal aid work already suffered "scandalous" delays in the payment of bills. Now they were being asked by one government department to subsidise delays in another.

The position was no better for barristers doing private work who were not allowed by law to sue for their fees, as businessmen could. "They cannot charge interest. Very many live off huge overdraft facilites."

Malcom Swift, QC, leader of the Northeastern Circuit, has written to Dawn Primarolo, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, expressing his horror at the proposals and warning that the plans would drive many barristers out of practice and into bankruptcy. The changes, he said, would have a disastrous effect on all barristers, but most particularly the young Bar. They would "decimate the Bar at a stroke".

"It will encourage only those with private means to become barristers, thereby putting back everything the Bar has achieved in admitting barristers from poorer backgrounds over the past 30 years."

The Law Society, which is mounting a campaign against the proposed tax changes together with accountants, said it was contacting every firm in England and Wales to see how they would be affected.

Phillip Sycamore, the president, said: "I am particularly concerned that the catch-up payments involved in the changes will cripple many small and medium law firms in England and Wales.

"From next year profits will be inflated, on paper, by the addition of work in progress. The tax liability will rise accordingly, before the money has actually been received from the client. This is an unfair, punitive measure for solicitors whose clients are unwilling to pay upfront at the time of taxation."

Mr Sycamore said that taken with Government plans to bring in no win, no fee arrangements in place of most civil legal aid, the tax changes would be unworkable. "It will be impossible for solicitors to predict their income."

Heather Hallett, page 39

JUDGES ARE KEEN TO STAY IN TOUCH

Judges are to receive feedback on their performance in court; they are to visit more prisons; and be taught more about drugs. In a survey of 500 judges there was overwhelming support for more training in sexual offences, identified by four in five as the most difficult and sensitive area of work. They also wanted more help in dealing with child witnesses. Stipendiary magistrates favoured more training on drugs. The unpublished survey was commissioned by the Judicial Studies Board. Recent Home Office research showed the public thought judges were "out of touch".

ASHLEY COOMBES



Don Paterson: he was described as being "interested in trains and girls' legs"

God's Gift to Women wins Eliot poetry prize

A POET who writes about sex, drink and trains has won the £5,000 T.S. Eliot prize (Dalya Alberge writes).

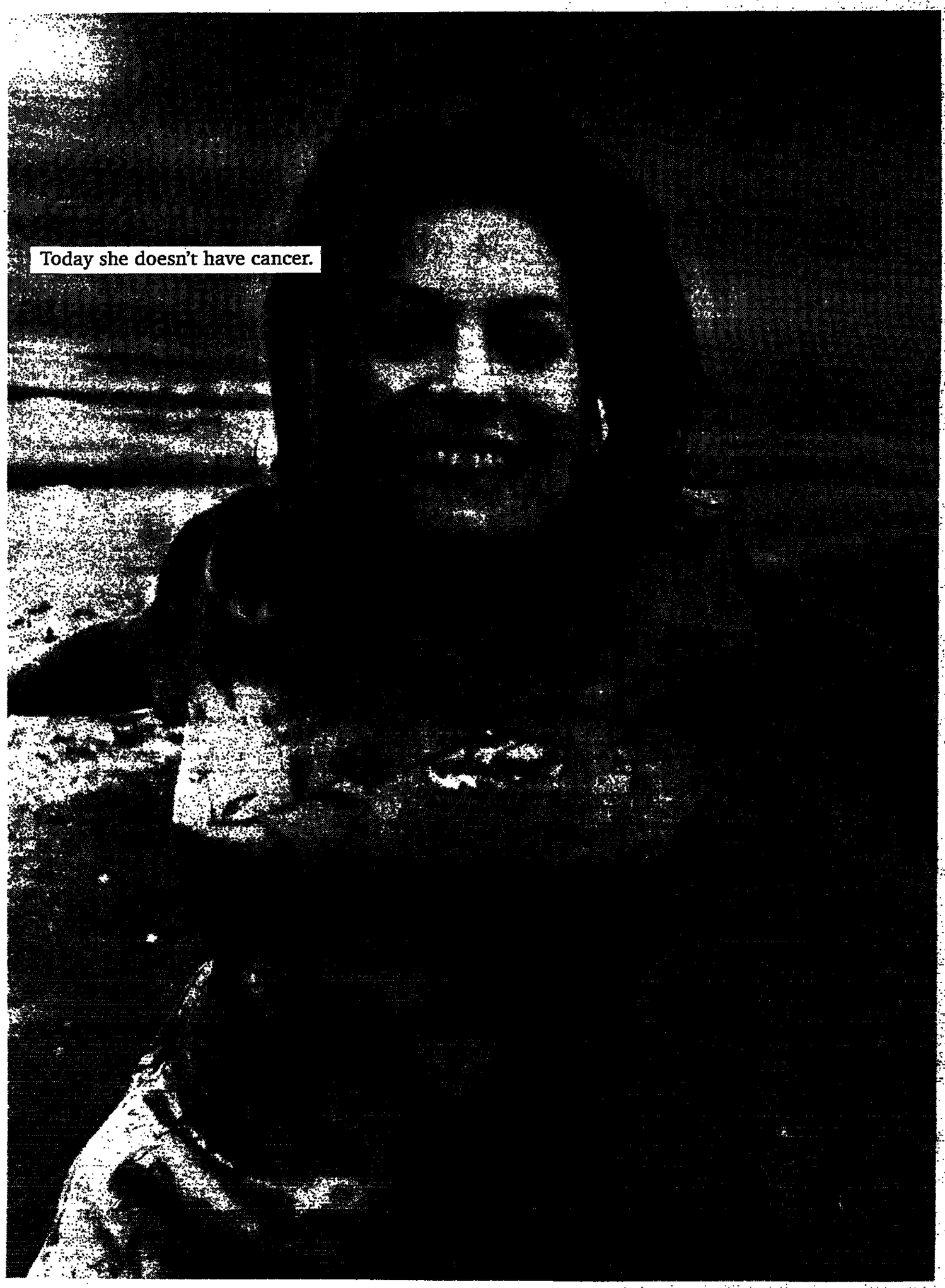
The Poetry Book Society, which organises the award, called Don Paterson, 35, "a new lad" for his winning collection, *God's Gift to Women*. Mr Paterson, who was born in Dundee, received his prize from Eliot's widow, Valerie, at an awards ceremony last night.

Mr Paterson, whose first collection, *Nil Nil*, won the 1994 Forward Poetry Prize, began as a musician and still appears as a guitarist, combining it with being poetry editor at Picador.

Clare Brown, the director of the Poetry Book Society, said: "He is a man and he is interested in trains and girls' legs, but he knows that is not politically correct and he is grappling with the issue.

"There is a great deal of tenderness and sensitivity, and also a lot of irony in his work. Like every man, he wishes he was God's gift to women, but he knows he isn't."

Ted Hughes, page 17



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Compromise in BA music licence case

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

A DISPUTE between British Airways and a copyright society over the annual licence fee required for playing music on BA flights was resolved yesterday with a compromise decision.

The Copyright Tribunal ruled that BA would have to pay the Performing Right Society £700,000 a year. This is well below the £1.1 million which the society had requested and had been paid last year, but exceeds the £280,000 to £300,000 which BA had been paying until 1996. Although an interim decision, neither side is expected to contest the outcome.

John Axon, the society's director of performance licensing, said: "Whilst the immediate effect will be a reduction in royalties paid to the society on the most recent year, it gives a solid base for income as airline passengers increase."

The society, which represents writers, lyricists and publishers, argues that more than 12 million passengers benefit from in-flight entertainment each year, and figures are likely to increase with BA's new shorthaul market. The licence fee should go up, not down, Mr Axon said.

He noted how the tribunal chairman, Christopher Floyd, QC, "referred to BA's underpayment in earlier years and noted the airline had failed to account for large sums of money due to composers". He also recognised that British airline licence rates were higher than elsewhere.

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Please note that, with effect from 20th January 1998 the following increase in interest rates will apply.

OPEN ACCOUNT TYPES				GROSS CAR (1)	GROSS	NET (2)
ONE YEAR SHARES	£40,000	up to	£200,000	7.60%	7.60%	6.08%
	£20,000	up to	£40,000	7.40%	7.40%	5.92%
75 days' notice after 28 days	£10,000	up to	£20,000	7.20%	7.20%	5.76%
min	£2,500	up to	£10,000	6.95%	6.95%	5.56%
	£1,000	up to	£2,500	5.25%	5.25%	4.20%
TESSA CHOICE	90 DAYS' NOTICE - min £2,500			7.50%	7.50%	N/A
OLYMPOS SHARES	£40,000	up to	£200,000	7.50%	7.50%	6.00%
	£20,000	up to	£40,000	6.75%	6.75%	5.40%
	£10,000	up to	£20,000	6.25%	6.25%	5.00%
min	£1,000	up to	£10,000	2.00%	2.00%	1.60%
REGENT/REGAL	£30,000	up to	£150,000	5.25%	5.25%	4.20%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	5.00%	5.00%	4.00%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.25%	4.25%	3.40%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.35%	3.35%	2.68%
	£500	up to	£2,500	2.65%	2.65%	2.12%
BOUNTY SHARES	£50,000	up to	£200,000	6.70%	6.59%	5.27%
	£30,000	up to	£50,000	5.85%	5.85%	4.68%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	5.45%	5.38%	4.30%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.70%	4.65%	3.72%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.85%	3.81%	3.05%
	£500	up to	£2,500	3.45%	3.42%	2.74%
FOLLOW-UP TESSA	up to £5,000 - LBS TESSA maturities only			7.85%	7.85%	N/A
	ISSUES CLOSED FOR NEW ACCOUNTS					
ORDINARY	£30,000	up to	£150,000	2.35%	2.34%	1.87%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	2.15%	2.14%	1.71%
min	£2,500	up to	£10,000	1.85%	1.84%	1.47%
	£500	up to	£2,500	1.55%	1.54%	1.23%
REGULAR	up to £150,000			1.55%	1.55%	1.24%
SEVEN DAY	£10,000	up to	£150,000	2.85%	2.83%	2.26%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	2.35%	2.34%	1.87%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	1.95%	1.84%	1.55%
	£500	up to	£2,500	1.80%	1.59%	1.27%
TWO YEAR A/Cs (90 days' notice)	£30,000	up to	£200,000	5.55%	5.55%	4.44%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	5.10%	5.10%	4.08%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.30%	4.30%	3.44%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.55%	3.55%	2.84%
	£500	up to	£2,500	2.85%	2.85%	2.12%
PREMIUM	£40,000	up to	£200,000	6.25%	6.25%	5.00%
	£30,000	up to	£40,000	5.85%	5.77%	4.62%
	£20,000	up to	£30,000	5.60%	5.53%	4.43%
	£10,000	up to	£20,000	5.35%	5.28%	4.22%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.35%	4.30%	3.44%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.60%	3.57%	2.85%
	£500	up to	£2,500	2.75%	2.73%	2.18%
HIGH YIELD min	£2,500	up to	£200,000	3.35%	3.32%	2.66%
	£500	up to	£2,500	3.05%	3.03%	2.42%
MAGNUM	£30,000	up to	£200,000	4.85%	4.79%	3.83%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	4.19%	4.11%	3.29%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	3.85%	3.81%	3.05%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.45%	3.42%	2.74%
	£500	up to	£2,500	3.15%	3.13%	2.50%
SHOPPA	£40,000	up to	£200,000	6.15%	6.06%	4.85%
	£20,000	up to	£40,000	5.40%	5.33%	4.26%
	£10,000	up to	£20,000	4.60%	4.55%	3.64%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.10%	4.06%	3.25%
min	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.85%	3.81%	3.05%
	£500	up to	£2,500	3.50%	3.47%	2.78%
TESSA SELECT	60 DAYS' NOTICE			6.75%	6.75%	N/A
TESSA-ELITE	60 DAYS' NOTICE			6.75%	6.75%	N/A
MATURED TESSAs						
Choice 90 days	£1,000	and over		7.50%	7.50%	6.00%
Elite 60 days	£1,000	and over		6.75%	6.75%	5.40%
Select 60 days	£1,000	and over		6.75%	6.75%	5.40%
	Balance	under	£1,000	2.65%	2.65%	2.12%
BOUNTY DEPOSITS	£50,000	up to	£200,000	6.70%	6.70%	5.36%
	£30,000	up to	£50,000	5.85%	5.85%	4.68%
	£10,000	up to	£30,000	5.45%	5.45%	4.36%
	£5,000	up to	£10,000	4.70%	4.70%	3.76%
	£2,500	up to	£5,000	3.85%	3.85%	3.08%
min	£500	up to	£2,500	3.45%	3.45%	2.76%
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£200,000 for man beaten by police into confession

Innocent suspect spent five years in jail after arrest by West Midlands officers, reports Richard Ford

A MAN who spent more than five years in jail for offences he did not commit won £200,000 compensation yesterday in the latest award linked to the activities of a disbanded serious crime squad.

George Lewis, 32, was jailed for ten years after he was beaten by police officers who made up his "confession" to two armed robberies and a burglary. The award to Mr Lewis is the biggest in a series of payouts to men convicted on the basis of discredited evidence gathered by West Midlands Police serious crime squad. At least 20 men have had convictions quashed by the Court of Appeal.

The officer who assaulted Mr Lewis was the late John Perkins, a detective constable involved in 23 cases in which he is alleged to have fabricated evidence, including the Carl Bridgewater case. A judge at the High Court in Birmingham told Mr Lewis yesterday that he had been wholly vindicated.

Mr Lewis, from Bushbury in Wolverhampton, was headbutted, punched, and threatened with a syringe as he was questioned after his arrest in 1987. Police officers then forced him to sign a confession form and made up evidence against him. They also racially abused him, the High Court was told.

Richard Clayton, for Mr Lewis, said that his client had been wrongfully arrested at home by DC Perkins and DC Peter Reynolds. Mr Clayton said: "While being driven to the police station, Detective Constable Perkins racially abused Mr Lewis, punched him in the head two or three times and headbutted him.

"When Mr Lewis arrived at Wednesfield police station he was unlawfully refused access to solicitors ... DC Perkins told him to sign blank sheets of interview notes. When Mr Lewis refused, he was again struck by DC Perkins several times on the head."

Mr Clayton said that, when Mr Lewis asked an officer what he was going to do with the syringe, another officer replied: "This will make the black bastard talk."

Mr Lewis later consulted a solicitor and made detailed complaints, but was told he did not have grounds to appeal against his convictions.

The case was referred to the appeal court after West Yorkshire Police began an investigation into the serious crime squad. A retrial was set to take place but, when Mr Lewis was released from custody in 1992, the prosecution decided to offer no evidence gainst him.

Mr Justice John Owen told Mr Lewis yesterday: "Nothing could put right the wrong that was done to you. You have been fully vindicated."

Outside the court, Mr Lewis said he was delighted that police had admitted liability and that his name had been cleared. "I'm extremely angry still that I had to spend five hellish years behind bars."

A spokesman for West Midlands Police said it regretted "the miscarriage of justice which occurred in this case". He was unable to say how many people had been freed after wrongful convictions linked to the serious crime squad, nor how much compensation had been paid.

The force said the four officers who fabricated the interview notes were no longer serving: one, not named in court, retired yesterday; DC Reynolds retired in 1996.



MIKE SCO

George Lewis leaving court yesterday: "I'm extremely angry that I had to spend five hellish years behind bars"

Yard steps up battle against corruption

BY STEWART TENDLER
CRIME CORRESPONDENT

SCOTLAND YARD has strengthened its undercover anti-corruption squad as senior officers target a hard core of detectives suspected of taking bribes, drug-dealing and sabotaging cases.

An extra 15 officers will be recruited for the unit, making a total of 45, because of the increasing volume of investigations. Last year, Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, said he believed there could up to 250 corrupt officers in his force. He told MPs that signs of new problems had begun to emerge and crooked officers were using their skills to avoid detection.

The undercover squad was formed two years ago within the Yard's Complaints Investigation Bureau to gather intelligence on corrupt officers and investigate using secret video cameras and listening devices. In the past year, the team's work has led to the arrest or suspension of nine current and former officers and civilians.

Pair win £60,000 for assault claim

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Metropolitan Police yesterday paid more than £60,000 compensation to two friends who said they were beaten up when they complained about a violent arrest they had witnessed.

Audley Harrison, 26, an amateur boxer, and Hazel Bruno-Gilbert, 31, an accounts assistant, claim they were assaulted when they went to Stoke Newington police station in northeast London. They said they had gone to the station after seeing what they say was excessive force used by officers detaining a man in a deserted street.

In a statement read at Central London County Court, the Metropolitan Police rejected the couple's allegations but agreed to pay Mr Harrison £27,500 and Ms Bruno-Gilbert £35,000.

Mr Harrison said: "I have won some compensation, but I don't feel justice has been done. I had gone to that police station as an honest citizen, concerned at something I had seen."

The pair say the incident caused the break-up of their relationship, although they are still friends. They claimed damages for unlawful detention, assault and malicious prosecution after the incident in May 1995.

A charge against Mr Harrison of obstructing a police officer and an allegation of assault against Ms Bruno-Gilbert were thrown out by Highbury magistrates seven months later.

Compromise in music licence c

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This is a partnership on which Labour's success depends

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

TONY BLAIR and Gordon Brown need each other, and they know it. The success of the Government depends upon their close working relationship. Mr Blair supplies the broader political vision and appeal behind new Labour. Without him, there would probably be a rapid descent into factional bickering between Mr Brown, Robin Cook and John Prescott. Mr Brown has been the main architect and strategist of Blairism. Without him, the Government's programme might lose its intellectual coherence and drive.

That is why reports of the past few days about their alleged views and doubts about each other are so damaging to the Government. These cannot be dismissed as media speculation. Mr Blair and Mr Brown have been ill-served by their champions and advisers whose comments have done so much to inflame recent headlines — despite their attempts yesterday to play down talk of differences.

The chatter of the courtiers has certainly magnified the tensions. There is not even the remotest parallel between their current relations and the growing split between Margaret Thatcher and Nigel Lawson in 1987-89, or the mutual disillusionment between John Major and Norman Lamont in 1992-93. Unlike the Thatcher-Lawson row of a decade ago, there is no disagreement about strategy. Mr Blair strongly backs his Chancellor's economic approach, notably his ambitious unfolding Welfare to Work programme.

Yet no one in 10 Downing Street or the Treasury would deny that tensions exist between the two. These are still more to do with rivalry and associated back-biting between close advisers than between the two principals. Mr Brown's main weakness is that he prefers to operate through a coterie of a few very loyal advisers and political allies and is seen as suspicious of many ministerial colleagues. This predates the July 1994 leadership election which left the Brown camp with lingering sore feelings, particularly, and unfairly, towards Peter Mandelson. The strains between Mr Brown and Mr Mandelson have complicated decision making in Opposition and Government.

Mr Blair talks of his Chancellor in the manner of a candid, and occasionally exasperated, friend. They talk frequently and the two are determined to avoid anyone, in the press or the Government, driving a wedge between them. Mr Blair wishes Mr Brown would relax more and be less worried about his position. Mr Brown is loyal, both in public and private, but at times gives the impression of developing and implementing his own agenda. His friends sometimes present him as chief executive of the domestic agenda.

The new, and worrying, feature is that some Blair advisers believe the Brown camp has begun to make tactical mistakes — over the handling of the announcement about policy on a European single currency, over lone parent benefits and by miscalculating the reaction to the proposals on Individual Savings Accounts. The Brown camp is accused of not consulting sufficiently, either within the Treasury or with the rest of Whitehall, including the Prime Minister's own advisers.

Mr Brown remains a politician of enormous strengths — a giant of the Government. His redirection of Labour economic policy, both the shedding of the old tax-and-spend image and the concentration on assisting people into work, has been crucial to the party's success. Mr Brown could still be Prime Minister after Mr Blair, but he will have to change his style to become more of a team player. Mr Brown knows his Labour history and the fate and weaknesses of the party's "nearly men". He will only achieve his ambitions if he appears less ambitious and restless, and is content with being a loyal and successful Chancellor to Mr Blair.

PETER RIDDELL

Blair strives to banish talk of rift with Brown

Criticism has been replaced by generous praise, report Philip Webster and Jill Sherman

TONY BLAIR lavished praise on Gordon Brown yesterday in an urgent attempt to ease the crisis that has developed over their relationship.

The Prime Minister's view that Mr Brown was "an extremely excellent Chancellor" for whom he has "immense regard, politically and personally" was made known by Downing Street amid signs that a high-level exercise to rein in Mr Brown had run dangerously out of control.

At the weekend Mr Blair's close associates privately questioned Mr Brown's judgment in co-operating with the author of a biography that raked over the tensions of the 1994 Labour leadership contest. But criticism of his refusal to put the past behind him escalated to such an extent that it became counter-productive.

Yesterday Downing Street officials were striving to dispel suggestions of a personal feud. The row overshadowed Mr Brown's first stint as chairman of European finance ministers in Brussels since Britain took over the presidency of the EU. It also left Labour MPs incredulous at the behaviour of the Blair and Brown camps, three and half years on from the leadership election.

One Blairite MP said: "I'm astonished that people at the very highest level cannot be more disciplined. They are letting this run out of control. We are only eight months into government. They have got to get a grip."

Another MP said that the briefing by Mr Blair's allies was damaging not only the Chancellor but also the Government. Bob Marshall-Andrews, Labour MP for Medway, described a claim attributed to Blair supporters that the Chancellor was "psychologically flawed" as infantile and puerile. "We think we know where it's coming from," he said. "It may very well be the usual unelected suspects. But at the end of the day the Prime Minister appoints these people and employs them and he has got to sort them out."

The Times has been told that reports of Mr Blair rebuking Mr Brown at last Thursday's Cabinet meeting are wide of the mark. Misunderstandings appear to have arisen after Mr Blair's response to a surprise intervention by Jack Straw at the end of the meeting.

Mr Straw thanked all his Cabinet colleagues for their support during his family troubles over Christmas, when his son was arrested on suspicion of drug dealing. He said that if there had been any crack in Cabinet backing for him his position would have been much more difficult.

At that point Mr Blair intervened and called for similar unity of purpose over other controversial areas of government and specifically called on ministers to go out and support the Millennium Dome plans. In effect, he was calling for more support for Peter Mandelson, the minister in charge of the plans, although his call for unity was mistaken as a sideswipe at Mr Brown.

A Cabinet source said: "That is not his style. If Tony has anything to say to Gordon it will be done in private."

In Brussels yesterday, Mr Brown said that he would not be distracted from the "historic" work of steering the EU towards the launch of the single currency in 1999.

There is no doubting the irritation at Number 10 over the Brown biography and what Mr Blair's associates see as the perpetuation of the myth that Mr Brown could have become leader in 1994. But Mr Blair's official spokesman went out of his way yesterday to deny "silly and counter-productive" claims about a rift. Asked about people apparently briefing journalists on the matter, he said: "All sorts of people will have difficulty with what is a very close relationship. They will seize whatever opportunities come along to unsettle it, but they will fail."

There was a need to differentiate between those who spoke with another's authority and those who merely claimed to do so. "We will always find people who will give commentaries, give opinions, that may then be translated into the opinions of those above them. That always goes on."

The spokesman described the book, *Gordon Brown: the Biography*, by Paul Routledge, as a "a pretty shallow account of Gordon Brown's life". Had the contents appeared only in a newspaper column, no one would have "batted an eyelid".

Leading article, page 19

NATHALIE KOULISCHER



Gordon Brown and his Irish counterpart, Charlie McCreevy, in Brussels yesterday

Italy's chances, page 12

Heritage chief censured by MPs

By POLLY NEWTON

THE former chief executive of English Heritage has been accused of deception and misconduct in a report by MPs.

Chris Green, who resigned from the post 18 months ago after an inquiry into "administrative irregularities", is condemned by the Public Accounts Committee for "a clear failure in the proper conduct of public business".

The committee had been told that Mr Green approved a £161,000 advertising contract, contrary to the expressed wishes of the English Heritage commission. When the chairman asked him for the details, Mr Green ordered staff to present the figures in a way that disguised the true cost.

The report says: "Mr Green's deception of the chairman of English Heritage breached the standards of integrity and trust essential for public accountability and amounted to a breach of his fundamental duty."

Mr Green also persuaded English Heritage to pay him £4,431 for furniture from his previous office. When he left, he bought back the furniture for £3,481. The committee says this created "an unacceptable conflict of interest".

The MPs say they are seriously concerned that Mr Green was overpaid about £300 in expenses after he submitted inaccurate claims, although there is no suggestion that he was trying to defraud his employers. The MPs dismissed his explanation that he was unaware of the standard of public accountability required by quangos. "We do not find Mr Green's professed lack of awareness credible."

There is also criticism of the Department of National Heritage — now the Department of Culture, Media and Sport — for spending £61,000 on recruiting Mr Green, which included £33,000 paid to a firm of consultants.

Think-tank raises retirement option for life peers



Irvine: leading talks on the possible reforms

By JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

LIFE peers may have to accept fixed-term appointments or a mandatory retirement age under the Government's plans to reform the House of Lords, according to a report published yesterday.

Such a change would come as a shock to many of the present 482 life peers, known as "day boys" by the hereditary "boarders", who would be reluctant to give up an honour they believed would last a lifetime.

The Constitution Unit, an independent think-tank, says that the step would be necessary to avoid the House of Lords becoming too big over the next decade after the Government has ended the voting and sitting rights of hereditary peers.

Labour's manifesto pledge to rebalance the political make-up of the Lords so that it reflects party strengths in the House of Commons will lead to a regular and inexorable influx of new peers, says the unit's report, *Reforming the House of Lords: a step by step guide*. The numbers would not stop rising because peers have no way of formally retiring. They can remove themselves by taking voluntary "leave of absence", but this is normally only for hereditary peers who do not wish to play an active role in Parliament.

The initial cull of hereditary peers will reduce the Lords from 1,274 to about 500 members. But the Constitution Unit calculates that the Government would have to appoint an extra 55 new peers a year to reflect the political balance of the Commons, leading to a total of at least 739 peers in 2002.

"The size of the Lords will inexorably increase if full rebalancing takes place in each Parliament to reflect the votes cast at the previous election. There may need to be only partial rebalancing, the introduction of term appointments or a retirement age," the report says.

Most hereditary peers rarely or never attend the Lords and their expulsion will make little difference to the number of peers regularly sitting and voting in the chamber, at present about 300. But because life peers play a more active role, a partly reformed Lords with almost 800 members could become overloaded.

Any curb on life peers' rights would take place before the Government introduces its second-stage reforms, which could take several Parliaments to implement. Last week a new Cabinet committee headed by Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, began considering the further reforms, which may lead to a partly elected, partly nominated senate-style second chamber.

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Ministers may end Crown copyright

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

CROWN copyright over a vast range of official publications from Ordnance Survey maps to court judgments may be lifted under reforms outlined yesterday.

A government Green Paper proposes a reform of the Crown copyright law to bring it into line with the electronic age and make distribution of government information easier and accessible. The most controversial option is to abolish Crown copyright, removing all restrictions on the use of government material that now earns the Exchequer some £200 million a year from royalties and licensing.

The Green Paper says that one argument for removing Crown copyright is that it is publicly owned and should be freely available, if not free. Those in favour also say that the change could prompt the growth of an "information market" and help the Government in its aim to be a leader in the information age.

But the paper also says that without some form of copyright protection over government materials, private sector firms would be reluctant to take the commercial risk of publishing.

IN PARLIAMENT

Today in the Commons: questions to Scottish ministers, the Leader of the Commons Leader and the Commons Commission; Government of Wales Bill, committee; short debate on inclusion of Test match cricket as a listed sporting event. In the Lords: Teaching and Higher Education Bill committee; debate on quarrying industry.

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A night to remember for unsinkable golden oldies

The younger stars gave way to veterans in Hollywood's latest awards, reports Giles Whittell

GILL ALLEN



Regal winner: Dame Judi Dench was best actress for playing Queen Victoria



Ving Rhames surrenders his award to Jack Lemmon

YOUNG stars gave way to the older generation in one of Hollywood's biggest award ceremonies. In a night that also gushed praise on the latest revival of the *Titanic* story, it showed that some big names are really unsinkable.

Dame Judi Dench, 63, Burt Reynolds, 61, Jack Nicholson, 60, and Peter Fonda, 58, all beat younger stars to win Golden Globe awards. And when one of the younger, hipper stars won a prize, he insisted on passing it on to Jack Lemmon, aged 72.

Ving Rhames, who appeared in *Pulp Fiction* and *Mission: Impossible*, was named best actor for his leading role in *Don King*, a television film about the boxing promoter. Lemmon was one of his rivals for a television remake of *12 Angry Men*. Sobbing as he approached the podium, Rhames declared that actors should celebrate the art in themselves, and summoned a bewildered Lemmon to join him at the microphone. "Acting is about giving and I want to give this award to a man who has given us so much," he said, and handed over his trophy.

Lemmon was heard muttering "I'll think of something" on his way to the stage. He called the gesture "the most wonderful and crazy moment in the history of the Golden Globes". He tried to return the award, but was still holding it when interviewed backstage. The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which presents the globes, said later that a duplicate would be made.

Dame Judi was too busy in the West End to accept her globe for best actress in a drama, for her role as Queen Victoria in *Mrs Brown*, ruling out wins for her fellow British nominees, Helena Bonham Carter and Kate Winslet.

The cast of *The Full Monty* turned out in force, but was likewise disappointed. Despite offering to perform their now-celebrated striptease to the packed ballroom of the Beverly Hills Hilton, they lost out in the best comedy stakes to Jack Nicholson in *As Good As It Gets*. Imitating the favourite gesture of Jim Carrey, a fellow nominee, Nicholson turned to "moon" his audience when named winner of the prize for best actor in a comedy.

Daniel Day-Lewis, star of *The Boxer*, was passed over in the best actor category in favour of Peter Fonda, a further triumph for actors making comebacks. "It's great to be back," said an emotional Fonda, who won for *Ulee's Gold*. Referring to the late Henry Fonda, he added: "I wish my dad was here."

Burt Reynolds compared himself to "an old Stradivarius" when named best supporting actor for his work in *Boogie Nights*. "It's been real quiet," he admitted of his recent fallow years. "But if you hang on to things long enough, they come back in style — like me."

Kim Basinger, 44, won best supporting actress for her return as a prostitute in *LA Confidential*, and Shirley MacLaine, 63, received the Cecil B. DeMille award for her 40-year career.

The $200 million epic *Titanic*, directed by James Cameron, won four awards, for best drama, best director, best original score and best song. The most expensive film ever made has been a huge box-office success since its release five weeks ago, and is now the favourite for the Oscars in March.

Cameron said: "Does this prove once and for all that size does matter?"

Arts, pages 35-37

Lottery TV show wins over Madonna

BY CAROL MIDGLEY
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

MADONNA has chosen to give her first live performance on British television for 15 years alongside Terry Wogan on the BBC's National Lottery show. The singer, who has an estimated fortune of £66 million, will give a debut performance of her new single, *Frozen*, on February 21.

Insiders say she has waived the usual nominal appearance fee. The move follows recent BBC attempts to draw more viewers to the show, which attracts audiences of about 10 million.

Madonna presented Jack Nicholson with his best actor award at the Golden Globes, and many fans believed the star of *Evita* was scaling down her music career to concentrate on acting after the birth of her daughter, Lourdes, in 1996. But she will release a new album, *Ray of Light*, on March 2. To date she has had seven British No 1 singles and five No 1 albums, of which she has sold more than 100 million copies.

The National Lottery show has a good track record of attracting the top stars, though Madonna is the highest-profile American so far. Shirley Bassey, Elton John and Tom Jones have performed live. A spokeswoman for the lottery organiser Camelot said: "It is obviously the show to be seen on."

The show will also feature the Great British Song Contest to find this year's entry for the Eurovision Song Contest. From March, the programme's format will change to that of a lottery gameshow, hosted by Anthea Turner.



Madonna at the Golden Globe awards yesterday

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fireman accused of hoax calls

Paul Roberts, 32, a Merseyside fireman, made hoax emergency calls so that the alarm would go off just minutes before a shift at the Old Swan station was due to end, ensuring that his colleagues would earn an extra hour's pay for the callout, Liverpool Crown Court was told.

Suspicions were aroused when, after the third call, two firemen at the scene were without firefighting suits. Mr Roberts denies benefiting by deception. When questioned, he accepted the calls had been made from his mobile telephone, but denied making them. The case continues.

Race case halted

Charges that Lady Birdwood, 84, meant to incite racial hatred were dropped after the Attorney-General was told that she did not have the mental capacity to stand trial. He signed a *nolle prosequi*, an order staying proceedings.

BA flies high

British Airways collected four first prizes in the 1998 Airline of the Year awards in London, while Virgin won two seconds and a third. Airline of the year in the *Executive Travel* magazine/Reed Travel Group awards was Emirates.

Urn returned

A Metro car stolen while the woman owner played bingo has been found by police and returned . . . with her father's ashes still in the boot. Maxine Frear, 37, of Bradford, had kept the urn there since his cremation last March.

Grave attacked

Vandals have attacked the grave of Ivor Gurney, the First World War poet and composer, at St Matthew's church, Twigworth, Gloucestershire. A memorial to Gurney, who died aged 47 in 1937, was smashed.

Wig phobia

A judge, lawyers, clerks and ushers removed their wigs, gowns and cloaks for a defendant with a phobia about uniforms. Mary Shoemark, 41, of Bristol, admitted affray at Bristol Crown Court. Sentencing was adjourned.

Nearer my God to thee on the Internet

BY RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

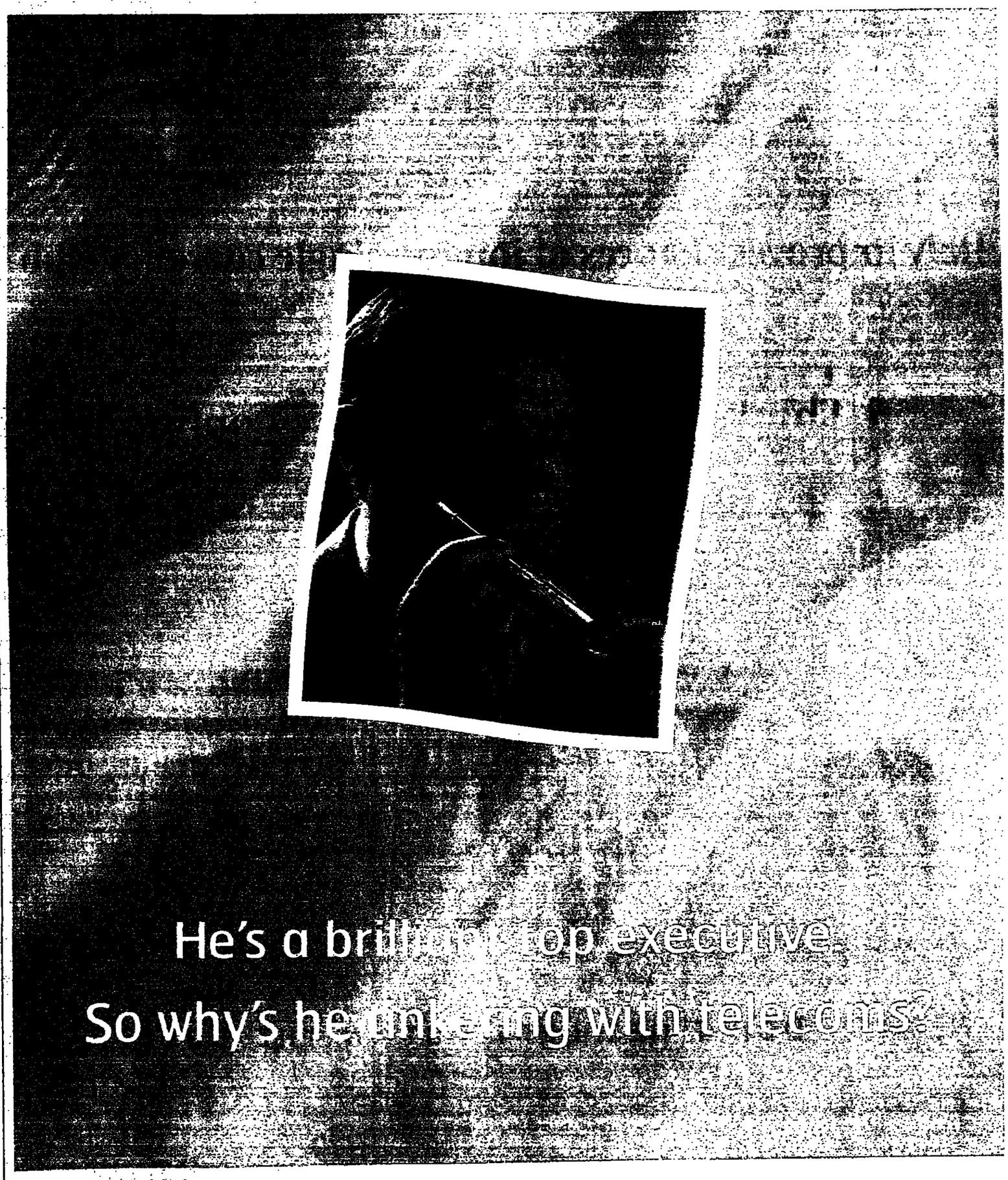
THE Canon of Bradford Cathedral has said that computer users who log on to the Internet could be glimpsing something of the mind of God. Canon Geoff Smith says he has been using the Internet for more than a year, and believes there is nothing it does not know.

"It would seem that all the information in the world, all that is known, has been known or might be needed to be known is available on the Internet," he says in *Crucible*, the magazine of the Church of England social responsibility board. "The human understanding of God is that he is all-knowing, all-powerful. So is the Internet God? Is it a reflection of the word of God? Is it a glimpse into the awesome nature of God?"

Mr Smith says the Internet, along with the lottery, is a symbol of the end of the current millennium and the start of the new one.

Mr Smith's ideas were dismissed by Professor Haddon Willmer, Professor of Theology at Leeds University, who said: "We shall be cut down by God if we think of the Internet as a god.

"It's an attitude that's unrealistic and erroneous. I can understand people becoming addicted to the Internet, but it would be a mistake to deify it."



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Beijing eases stance on rights

Cook's trip heralds opening of doors to West by China

BY JAMES PRINGLE IN BEIJING AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Chinese leadership is willing to accept a visit from Mary Robinson, the United Nations High Commissioner, after years of criticism and pressure from the West over their human rights record.

Revelation of the concession came last night from Qian Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister, as Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, began a visit to the Chinese capital.

Human rights was among the subjects Mr Cook discussed in four hours of talks with Mr Qian. The talks ranged from the Middle East and Iraq, where Beijing wishes every diplomatic channel to be explored in the new crisis over UN inspectors in Baghdad, to UK and EU relations with China.

A Foreign Office spokesman said Mr Cook will raise the issue of human rights again — and the specific names on an EU list of detained human rights activists — when he lunches with a Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister today.

He is expected to refer to the cases of specific detained human rights activists, including Wang Dan, one of the leaders of the suppressed 1989 Tiananmen protests.

The Foreign Secretary is intent on promoting the "fresh start" in Sino-British relations that he and his Foreign Office mandarins say has followed a relatively successful handover in Hong Kong.

It is, however, the brevity of the Foreign Secretary's visit to the People's Republic — a mere 26 hours in the world's most populous country and a brief stay beginning later today in the former British colony — that draws most attention.

The British position is that the Sino-UK "fresh start" can combine talk of expanding trade with attention to human rights issues. It can be a "richer relationship" and follow a wide road embracing all issues.

"The belief is that all these elements can coexist," said a Foreign Office spokesman.

Mr Cook will also call on President Jiang Zemin within the red ochre walls of the Zhongnanhai leadership compound. It seems certain, however, that he will not raise matters of such delicacy with President Jiang, who was not pleased when President Clinton met Wei Jingsheng, the released human rights activist, taking the shine from President Jiang's own state visit to the United States late last year.

Later today Mr Cook will visit a British Council environmental education project. In Hong Kong, he will see Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's chief executive, tomorrow and meet Hong Kong politicians, including Martin Lee, a critic of Beijing and leader of the Hong Kong Democrats.

In another sign of susceptibility to Western concerns, China also demonstrated yesterday that it is prepared to be open about some of its military secrets when it invited William Cohen, the American Defence Secretary, inside an air defence complex which until this month Beijing had denied even existed. Mr Cohen and 14 senior American officials were shown round the seven-storey air defence command centre outside Beijing which tracks thousands of aircraft in the region daily and can be used to co-ordinate defence by a number of regional centres against missile or air attack.

It was the latest evidence of China's improving relations with the West, and with the United States in particular. China's military is engaged in long-term modernisation but until now has been coy about opening its doors to Western visitors.

Russia, in contrast, has allowed American Administration VIPs and military chiefs to see inside nuclear weapons facilities and other previously secret sites.

One of the US officials who visited the air defence complex said it was "an interesting mixture of old and new" technology. "The Chinese were fairly comfortable with exploring issues in an open manner," the official said.

During his visit Mr Cook is also expected to argue for greater Chinese transparency in dealings with the West.

This was one of the themes of the summit last October between President Clinton and President Jiang Zemin. Mr Clinton also raised American concerns over China's sale of anti-ship cruise missiles to Iran. The Chinese President had pledged the sales would cease.

NATALIE BEHRING / REUTERS



Robin Cook is greeted yesterday by Qian Qichen, his Chinese counterpart, before talks on human rights

British envoys try to defuse Turkish anger over EU snub

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

BRITAIN yesterday sent a senior diplomat to Turkey who will urge tougher measures by Ankara to prevent thousands of illegal immigrants from sailing to Europe.

Thousands of Kurds and refugees from other countries have sailed for Italy and Western ports from Istanbul in the past month, causing a huge humanitarian problem and almost wrecking Europe's border-free Schengen agreement.

Several European Union countries have accused Turkey of turning a blind eye to the exodus, suspecting that Ankara's present anger with the EU has encouraged officials to do little to stop it.

Peter Ricketts, the Foreign Office deputy political director, will take a conciliatory message to Turkish government and immigration officials. Britain believes Turkey has been caught off guard by the exodus and is now trying to control it. The visit underlines one of the preoccupations that will dominate Britain's presidency of the European Union: how to repair the damage done by European Union handling of Turkey, especially at last month's Luxembourg summit.

A breakdown in Turkish relations with the EU could have serious repercussions in at least five areas vital to Europe's interests: immigration, Cyprus, Nato enlargement, Greek-Turkish relations in the Aegean, and the allied operation to keep a no-fly zone in north Iraq.

The Foreign Office does not underestimate the danger; Britain has long been a champion of closer relations with Turkey but has been left aghast at the escalation of threats and counter-threats in the eastern Mediterranean. Washington, which sees Turkey as a vital Nato ally, is pressing the EU to repair relations with Ankara and is looking to Tony Blair to give a lead. Britain has therefore decided to appoint one of its most senior diplomatic troubleshooters to the job.

On Friday Mr Blair named Sir David Hannay, Britain's former ambassador to the United Nations, to be his personal envoy to Turkey. Sir David is already Britain's special representative to Cyprus, and for more than a year has been shuttling between Ankara, Athens and Nicosia. His brief is simple: to smooth ruffled feelings in Ankara, persuade the Turks that Europe has not slammed the door on them and avert the threat of rhetorical escalation and even military adventurism in the volatile region. The decision in Luxembourg to place Turkey alone in a third category of applicants for EU membership — those with no prospect of opening negotiations — caused fury in Ankara, especially as it was accompanied by triumphalism in Greece and remarks by the Luxembourg presidency that were seen as harshly anti-Turkish.

Mesut Yilmaz, Turkey's Prime Minister, immediately announced that Turkey would not attend a conference Britain has called of all would-be EU applicants in March. Ankara has hinted that it would speed up the integration of northern Cyprus with Turkey; deputies in the Turkish parliament have said they will block the enlargement of Nato, and there has been a dangerous escalation in the confrontation between Greek and Turkish air and naval forces in the Aegean, with almost daily incidents of Turkish planes buzzing Greek patrols and flying over Greek islands.

The scope for British diplomacy is limited. But a British envoy could do more to reason with Mr Yilmaz than any EU delegation.



Hannay: bid to calm region

Italy improves chances of joining single currency club



A confident Ciampi in Brussels yesterday

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

ITALY'S prospects of admission to economic and monetary union in Europe brightened yesterday after EU ministers gave their blessing to Rome's latest plans to purge its budget deficit, despite continuing qualms in Germany and The Netherlands over the risk of a weak euro.

Under the chairmanship of Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, the Finance Council endorsed Italy's 1998 budget as likely to keep the country on course for meeting the Maastricht criteria on fiscal discipline, although they called for extra efforts from Rome to implement its promises. Passing the EU's peer review was deemed vital by Italy after a new wave of Dutch and German doubt.

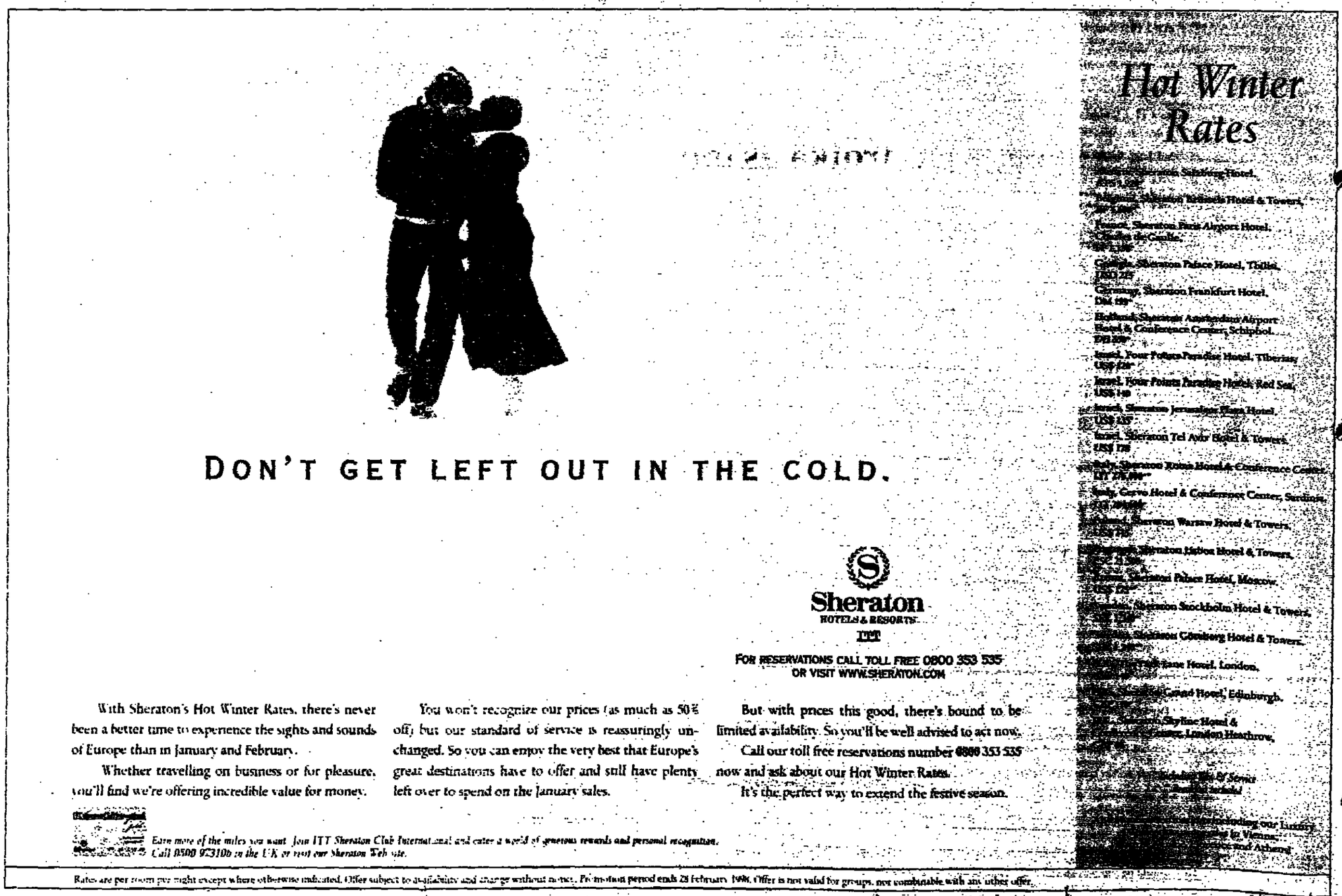
Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the Italian Treasury Minister, hailed the endorsement in Brussels as a green light to euro membership. "No country will now take the risk of causing the failure of Italy's enormous efforts," he said. The Dutch and German ministers played down tensions over the lira, but insisted on the paramount need for a strong euro and said yesterday's unanimous decision did not pre-empt the selection of currency members.

The northern states are dubious about the durability of Italy's striking conversion to fiscal rigour to qualify for the Maastricht ceiling of a budget deficit of 3 per cent of Gross Domestic Product. Italy expects to record a 2.8 per cent deficit this year. The Commission has still to rule on the legality of a special "euro-tax", imposed by Rome to cut its deficit in the run-up to the euro. The northerners are also worried by the level of Italy's national debt, which, at more than 120 per cent of GDP, is double the Maastricht target.

The ministers failed to make headway in a dispute over who will run the European Central Bank, the euro's future steward. EU states are trying to reach a compromise between Wim Duisenberg, the Dutchman and majority favourite, and Jean-Claude Trichet, the Frenchman being pushed by Paris and backed by Italy.

There was little support among officials yesterday for British claims to one of the six seats on the bank's board. Mr Brown, leading his first Ecofin council, said London would continue to press for "maximum involvement" in the running of the currency. The prospects of a forthcoming British struggle to avoid relegation from the centre of EU power were highlighted when Belgium called for moves to have the future euro-zone represented in discussions on the global monetary system. Mr Brown said the idea was not taken up yesterday.

☐ **Poll pullout:** Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the European Commissioner for Economic Affairs, responsible for the euro project, said he had decided not to run in French regional elections so he can concentrate fully on his EU job. He had been criticised for planning to run in a March poll in Brittany.



صكد من الإصل

British envoy try to defuse Turkish ange over EU snub

Arms check chief rejects Iraqi deadline

UN demands access to Saddam sites for weapon inspectors

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

EFFORTS to defuse the dispute with Iraq entered a critical phase last night when the United Nations chief arms inspector, Richard Butler, arrived to a hostile reception in Baghdad bearing a tough message for President Saddam Hussein. He described the stand-off over Iraq's refusal to comply with the Security Council's demands on weapons inspections as "most serious".

About 5,000 demonstrators chanted slogans accusing Mr Butler, an Australian diplomat, of being an "American agent" and burnt the United States flag outside the Baghdad headquarters of the UN's special commission (Unscom) on disarming Iraq.

Before going into his first meeting last night with Tariq Aziz, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Butler rejected a deadline set by Iraq for inspections to be completed. "This work can be done quite quickly with full Iraqi co-operation. It will end when it ends. To demand that it be finished at a certain stage is a degree of arbitrariness that makes no practical sense," he told a news conference in Baghdad.

Iraq, which has threatened to stop co-operating with Unscom unless sanctions are lifted within four months, said Mr Butler was wasting his time hunting for prohibited weapons because there were none. "Butler is legally and morally responsible for the death of each and every Iraqi child or sick person who dies because of the sanctions," *al-Thawra*, the newspaper of the ruling Baath Party, said. It added that "Iraq has lost patience" with him and Unscom. The warning came a day after Iraq called on a million volunteers to prepare for a jihad, or holy war, against sanctions.

Mr Butler's last visit to Iraq a month ago ended in failure when Baghdad refused to allow access to so-called presidential sites where weapons are believed to be hidden. He appeared doubtful about an imminent Iraqi climbdown this time. Asked by the BBC if he thought Iraq would "cave in", he said: "I know we have been here before and I can't quite honestly predict that they will, as you put it, 'cave in', but I do have a very strong message to them from the Security Council."

The CIA concluded recently that Saddam had emerged the winner from last November's stand-off and predicted that the Iraqi leader would provoke further confrontations if Washington remained dovish.

The US and Britain have since amassed the biggest concentration of naval firepower in the region since the Gulf War. Both say they want a diplomatic solution but state that their patience is wearing thin and refuse to rule out military action if Iraq remains defiant. In deference to the West's Arab allies, no punitive strike is likely before the Muslim holy month of Ramadan ends in about two weeks.

The latest dispute erupted last week when Iraq blocked weapons inspections led by Scott Ritter, an American whom Baghdad accused of being a CIA spy. Mr Butler said there was a "big burden of probability" that Mr Ritter would be asked to take part in further inspections.

Baghdad has long complained that the UN teams are dominated by inspectors from the US and Britain, which oppose any early lifting of sanctions until Saddam comes fully clean on his outlawed weapons programmes. Unscom has made good progress in eliminating Iraq's nuclear and ballistic weapons programmes, but says it needs considerable verification on biological and chemical weapons. Asked about changing the composition of the arms teams, Mr Butler said he could see ways in which other countries could contribute more inspectors.

But there appears less room for compromise regarding access to dozens of presidential and sovereign sites that Iraq insists are off-limits to inspectors. UN officials have complained that some of the sites cover acres and suspect they are being used to conceal documents and materiel.

"Saddam has drawn a red line under this issue and can't back down now without losing face," an Arab diplomat in Jordan commented.

Mr Butler said the Security Council's ruling on access to all sites was "crystal clear", but added: "The council has also said that, in bringing about that access, we should find ways to show respect to Iraq's sovereignty, dignity and national security."

Saddam, meanwhile, took steps to shore up crucial relations with neighbouring Jordan, its main lifeline to the outside world, by ordering the release of all Jordanian prisoners from Iraq. The move was seen as an attempt to placate Jordan after Iraq's execution last month of four Jordanian students alleged to have smuggled car spare parts worth a few hundred pounds. The hangings caused revulsion in Jordan.

The release of about 70 Jordanian prisoners appeared unrelated to the brutal killing on Saturday of six prominent Iraqis in Jordan, among them a senior diplomat and two wealthy and influential businessmen. The six, together with two Egyptians, were stabbed to death at the home of one of the businessmen in a wealthy Amman suburb.

The target appeared to be Nemir Aouji, a billionaire businessman whom dissidents said owed the Iraqi leadership millions of dollars. Other sources said Mr Aouji ran a company for Saddam that handled food imports into Iraq. He was also said to have been involved in illegal arms imports.

He is the second of six Aouji brothers to meet a violent end. Nasir Aouji was reportedly arrested and executed on trumped-up charges after a dispute in the late 1980s with Saddam's powerful son-in-law, Hussein Kamel. Kamel himself later fell out of favour when he defected to Jordan in August 1995 and was murdered when he was coaxed back to Iraq with promises of forgiveness six months later. A third Aouji brother, Nazim, is an immensely wealthy and well-connected British-based businessman.

Dissidents said the killings in Amman had all the hallmarks of being ordered by Saddam's two sons. Uday, the eldest, has become a multi-millionaire by cornering the black market business in sanctions-strapped Iraq while his younger brother, Qusay, is in overall charge of Saddam's many security services.

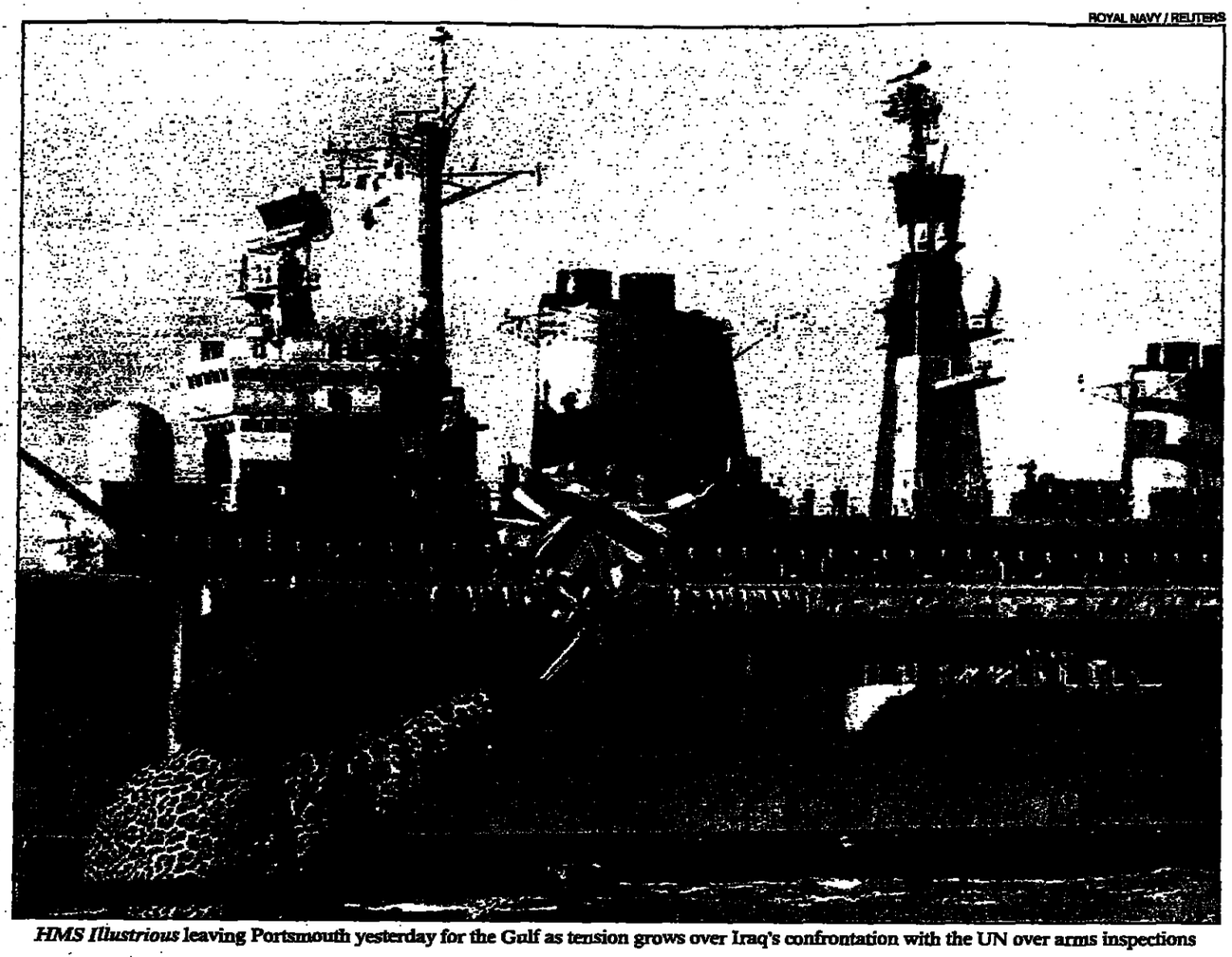
The victims were found gagged, with their hands tied behind their backs, reports in Jordan said. The attackers had apparently held them at gunpoint, but used knives to kill them for fear the sound of gunshots would alert neighbours. Three were said to have had their throats slit.

Leading article, page 19



Butler: faced hostile reception in Baghdad

ROYAL NAVY / REUTERS



HMS Illustrious leaving Portsmouth yesterday for the Gulf as tension grows over Iraq's confrontation with the UN over arms inspections

Senators call for unilateral military strikes

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

SENATE leaders have called for the United States to take unilateral action against Iraq if President Saddam Hussein continues to defy UN security resolutions.

Trent Lott, leader of Senate Republicans, and John McCain, a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, have separately called on the US to take military action outside the auspices of the UN to force the Iraqi leader to allow foreign inspections of his weapons-making capability. Mr Lott says he believes the majority of Senate Republicans would support air-strikes, adding "obviously it's time for an ultimatum".

Mr McCain said, if military action proved inescapable, he would prefer to see a coalition of the US and European and Arab countries. "But if necessary, we'd go it alone," he said.

Senators have queued during the three-day holiday weekend to profess support for tough action towards Iraq in the wake of its renewed defiance of UN resolutions.

Their support for military action, even unilateral strikes by the US, is in marked contrast to their ambivalence over risking US lives in Bosnia, driven by the belief that the success of America's last intervention against Baghdad can be repeated.

Mr McCain said Iraq should be told it must co-operate with inspections or face immediate US military action. In contrast to previous limited US air attacks, it should now aim to deliver a crushing onslaught against Iraq's palaces and strongholds, he said. The increasingly hardline noises from the Senate follow weekend comments by the National Security Adviser, Sandy Berger, that the US would be ready to use unilateral force against Iraq. "I would not rule out acting on our own," he said.

US pessimistic over visit by Netanyahu

Washington: American and Israeli diplomats are playing down prospects for today's meeting between President Clinton and Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, as the Administration prepares a markedly cooler reception than on previous visits (Bronwen Maddox writes).

After the Israeli Cabinet's decision on Sunday not to specify land to be surrendered in the next withdrawal from the West Bank, American officials were privately pessimistic that the meeting would do any more than emphasise the impasse in the peace process. The White House, exasperated at Israel's hardline stance, has taken pains to give Mr Netanyahu no warmer a reception than that planned for Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian Authority chairman, on Thursday.

☐ Jerusalem: The Middle East strategic balance tilted in Israel's favour with the arrival of the first two of 25 F 15I long-range strike aircraft purchased from the United States (Christopher Walker writes). They are called "the world's most advanced fighter plane". Codenamed Ram in Hebrew, meaning "Thunder", the planes were greeted with military fanfare and applause from a 3,000-strong audience led by Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister.

Cool welcome for EU troika as toll mounts in Algeria

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN ALGIERS

A MISSION of three European Union ministers left for Algeria late yesterday to hold talks on how the European Union can help to stop massacres that have left more than a thousand dead since the end of last month.

Derek Fatchett, a junior Foreign Minister, and his troika counterparts from Luxembourg and Austria will spend 24 hours in Algeria. There was no sign, however, of any slowdown in the slaughter. Ten people, including a pregnant woman, were killed in weekend attacks.

No one claimed responsibility, but President Zeroual's Government blames Muslim guerrillas for the deaths of civilians — including more than 1,100 since the Muslim holy month of Ramadan began on December 30. More than 65,000 people had been killed since early 1992, when the authorities cancelled a general election in which Islamists had taken a lead.

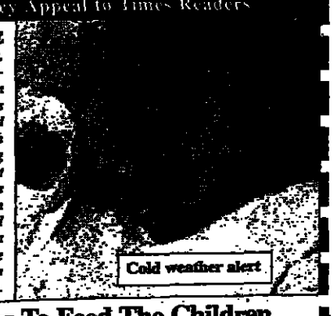
On the streets of Algiers yesterday opinions on the troika's arrival gave an indication of the problems it faces. "We want military aid from Europe to crush the terrorists," one old man announced. "We want humanitarian aid to feed the victims," shouted a woman. "We don't want anything from Europe. They should go home," said another man, expressing the overriding opinion of Algerians.

"Why should Britain tell us how to behave?" asked Omar, the son of a government official. Echoing the government line, he accused Britain of harbouring fundamentalist networks that funded the Armed Islamic Group (GIA). "If the British Government closed down the GIA offices in its country, it would help us more than telling us what to do here," he said.

However, Hakim Bouagache, international secretary for the FFS, an opposition socialist party that is happy with the troika's arrival, said: "At last we feel we have some dialogue with the outside world."

Bulgaria in Crisis

Emergency Appeal to Times Readers



LEFT TO FREEZE

Children like Yordan, 1½, already malnourished could die from cold and hunger this January unless aid reaches them now. With temperatures plummeting to –15° Yordan's scant clothing and no shoes offer him little protection from the bitter cold and there is no money to heat his orphanage. There are 37,000 places in Bulgaria's orphanages.

No Money To Feed The Children
No Money To Heat The Orphanages

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Mugabe relents after price riots

FROM JAN RAATH IN HARARE

PRESIDENT MUGABE last night ordered millers to scrap a 21 per cent rise in the price of the staple maize meal after a day of rioting during which police opened fire on looters in Harare protesting against the increases.

Shops, offices and factories were closed in the capital as police ordered workers to move out of the city centre. Mobs of youths fought running battles with riot police who fired teargas and wielded batons in the poorer quarter of the city centre.

Scores of shops were looted and had their windows smashed. One man received a gunshot wound in the leg.

Observers expressed anxiety over the mounting violence which is accompanying a strong tide of sentiment against President Mugabe and his Government. The townships were turned into no-go areas by youths who ordered vehicles to turn back. Journalists who tried to get round the roadblocks were greeted with fusillades of stones. Rubbish-bin barriers were placed across key roads, where youths lit fires. From overhead, a helicopter fired teargas on crowds.



Mugabe: forced to back down

There was no way of assessing the situation inside the townships, but initial reports indicated widespread destruction, with shops wrecked and vehicles burnt. It was the second outbreak of violence since December 9, when Zimbabwe was paralysed by the most comprehensive strike in the country's history, against a series of taxes imposed by the Government. Those taxes were also scrapped.

Yesterday's violence began as an apparently spontaneous boycott against a surge in the prices of consumer commodities. Last week prices of cooking oil, bread, soap and sugar rose by between 25 and 75 per cent, and yesterday the price of maize meal, the national staple food, was due to rise 21 per cent.

After yesterday's unrest, the Government announced that it would review all recent increases in commodity prices and introduce price controls abandoned in 1991 with the onset of economic reforms. Economists said this would fuel the black market and drive up prices even more.

Recently Chen Chimutengwende, the Information Minister, accused white businessmen of a "plot" to force up prices and turn public opinion against Mr Mugabe. But economists have long forecast higher inflation after Mr Mugabe ordered the Finance Ministry to foot a £140 million bill for an unbudgeted package of benefits for guerrilla war veterans.

Mr Mugabe faced more trouble when the Commercial Farmers' Union, most of them whites and threatened with the seizure of almost half their land, said it did not believe he was serious in his promises to carry out fair, legal and organised land reform.

The President had made this pledge after his Government signed undertakings with the European Union and the World Bank that European diplomats said effectively blocked the planned confiscation of 1,480 farms.

Under the original plan, the Government wanted to pay the farmers only part of the compensation due to them and refuse them the right to challenge the land seizures in the courts.

The Government has not commented on the implications of the undertakings, agreed as conditions for the unfreezing of international donor aid. Instead, Mr Mugabe has continued to declare publicly that there was no turning back.

David Hasluck, the union's chief executive, said: "I see no change among the political masters of this country ... They are signing agreements, but this is a far cry from what is actually happening."

Mr Mugabe has declared that the Government will pay farmers only for the infrastructure on their farms, but not for the land which he says has been "stolen" by whites since the first European settlers arrived here more than a century ago.

"When he says he is going to pay for the land, then I will believe it," Mr Hasluck said. "When the President says, 'we want this process to be a planned and orderly process', then everything will settle down and we can get down to farming again, and he can get lots of support for his land programme."

At the signing ceremony with the EU last Friday, Michael Laidler, Brussels' representative here, issued a warning that failure to carry out the undertakings would "make it extremely difficult to justify further funding" for the Zimbabwe Government.

Leading article, page 19

Cuba agrees to show Pope's Havana Mass live on TV

FROM DAVID ADAMS IN MIAMI

CUBAN officials have confirmed that the Pope's climactic Mass in Havana's Revolution Plaza next Saturday will be televised live across the island, although plans remain unclear regarding the three other public ceremonies at which John Paul II will be presiding.

The decision, days before the Pope's arrival in Cuba tomorrow, was made after pressure from the Vatican, which is concerned that President Castro may manipulate domestic coverage of the visit within Cuba.

Cuba has placed no obstacles to the four Masses being broadcast live to a global audience. But Havana has argued that not all events can be shown live in Cuba, because television broadcasts normally only in the afternoon to save energy. Out of concern for the Pope's health, his main public appearances have all been scheduled in the morning, when the tropical heat is less oppressive.

The full, live broadcast of the Havana Mass may have persuaded Señor Castro to attend the event in person. He announced his intention at the weekend and encouraged all Cubans, both Communist and Catholic, to attend. The Union of Communist Youth, Cuba's Communist Party youth movement, quickly told its members that attending the Mass was a patriotic duty.

Cuba is hoping to use the visit to present a new face of religious tolerance after decades of official persecution of the Church. But critics say the policy is motivated less by conviction than by convenience. The country is desperate for foreign investment to help it recover from economic recession after the collapse of its main benefactor, the former Soviet Union. The media until recently had given sparse coverage to the papal visit, a sign of official nervousness about how the public will react to it.

The authorities and citizens are confused by the policy U-turn on religion. At the weekend, when church workers pasted street posters, they were stopped by police in several suburbs.

It is unclear whether the visit will inspire a popular movement for freedom as occurred in Eastern Europe or whether Cubans will applaud the Pope politely and then resume their lives as Señor Castro takes the credit.

Monsignor Lorenzo Albacete, a New York priest who recently visited the country, said: "Everyone is walking around without a clear idea of what they are about to get into."

☐ Bogotá: Nobel laureate Gabriel García Márquez, 69, will cover the visit of the Pope as a news reporter. The Colombian author is a friend of President Castro, and as such he will "have privileged access to all the details of the trip". *El Tiempo* said. *(AFP)*

JOE CAVARETTA / AP



Workers at the José Martí Library in Revolution Plaza hoist up the bearded jaw of a giant image of Jesus Christ

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CHANGING TIMES

House of Commons and House of Lords

Review of Parliamentary Privilege

PARLIAMENT WANTS YOUR VIEWS

A joint committee of both Houses of Parliament chaired by a Law Lord (Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead) is looking at what special rights members of Parliament need to carry out their duties, e.g. freedom of speech, freedom to regulate their own affairs.

A short paper setting out the issues and questions is available free of charge by telephoning 0171 219 3327, by faxing 0171 219 0620 and on the internet at:
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Kohl challengers signal start of battle for power

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

GERMANY'S Social Democrat Opposition yesterday launched a frontal attack on Helmut Kohl's tired and fragile Government, marking the start of what looks likely to be the country's longest election campaign.

Nine prime ministers of Social Democrat-controlled states gathered in Bonn to signal the beginning of hostilities that will culminate in the general election of September 27. "We do not just want a change of government, we want a total change of policy," said Oskar Lafontaine, the Social Democrat chairman. "That has to be our goal over the next few months."

The Social Democrats tried to drum up interest in their campaign, first by staging a rally in a packed circus tent, then by producing a high-powered line-up in Bonn designed to display the range of their talent. Herr Kohl was unimpressed: the only alternative alignment being offered by the Social Democrats — a possible coalition with the Greens — would amount to nothing but "arguments, stagnation and the decline of our country".

Herr Kohl is looking vulnerable in the opinion polls. If he were to fight a popular duel this week with Herr Lafontaine, the latter would win by a margin of 47 per cent to 39 per cent. Against Gerhard Schröder, prime minister of Lower Saxony, the Chancellor would lose with 31 per cent to 61 per cent.

> "We don't just want a change of government, we want a total change of policy"

Such comparisons are, however, misleading and the Christian Democrats are convinced that they have everything to play for. First, the Chancellor is not directly elected. The Christian Democrats are not particularly strong at the moment but they are holding their heads above water. A ZDF television poll showed the Christian Democrats stable at 37 per cent with their partners, the Free Democrats, at 6 per cent.

The alternative line-up of Social Democrats (38 per cent) and Greens (10 per cent) would be far bigger, but there are real doubts about whether these two parties would be able to agree on a common platform. Herr Kohl was in a similar position before the 1994 elections and managed to secure a narrow majority.

The Chancellor, moreover, is hoping that the Social Democrats will trip themselves up. The first test will come in the regional Lower Saxony election on March 1, hence the early start to campaigning.

Herr Schröder says he will only challenge the Chancellor if he secures a good result in Lower Saxony. The campaign there is built around Herr Schröder's ambitions to be German leader. Posters next week will depict Herr Schröder and announce: "This is all about Lower Saxony — and a little bit more." The "little bit more" is Herr Kohl's contested throne.

The Social Democrats are spending £2 million on this regional election alone. The Christian Democrats are investing a similar amount and have, for example, produced hundreds of giveaway packets of paper handkerchiefs marked: "To be used against Red noses." Herr Lafontaine is to speak 30 times in Lower Saxony. The Chancellor will appear eight times and every member of the Bonn Cabinet is marked down for rallies.

The Chancellor's calculation is that he will stand a better chance again Herr Lafontaine (having thrashed him in the 1990 election). His campaign is therefore almost entirely geared to discrediting Herr Schröder. Even if Herr Schröder manages to win by a convincing margin on March 1, he will have a difficult week of in-fighting with Herr Lafontaine. Both men are already jostling for position. Herr Lafontaine claims to be the German heir to Tony Blair's election victory because he has unified the party and (unlike Herr Schröder) enjoys its full support. Herr Schröder claims his Blairist credentials by dint of his support from the nation and from business leaders.

"Together, they add up to a German version of Neil Kinnock," joke the Christian Democratic analysts.

ROBERTO PFEIL / AP



Social Democrats Gerhard Schröder, left, and Oskar Lafontaine, set out their political aims in Bonn yesterday

The 'Blue Suede Shoes' rocker dies at 65

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

CARL PERKINS, a rock'n'roll trailblazer whose song *Blue Suede Shoes* was hijacked so alluringly by Elvis Presley, died of a stroke yesterday in Nashville, Tennessee, aged 65.

He composed the song in 1956 after observing a boy upbraiding his date at a dance for stepping too near his blue suedes. His version sold two million records, before Presley recorded his own version.

Although Perkins never again composed a song to match that one, he did ensure that history would accord to him the status of rock'n'roll legend. Along with Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash, he signed up with the small, Memphis-based Sun record label.

But a car crash soon after he recorded *Blue Suede Shoes* kept him in bed for nearly a year. When he recovered, the other emerging stars had dashed far into the lead, driving Perkins to despair and alcohol.

Presley himself once told Perkins that, had he not met with the accident, Perkins would have been as much of a superstar. Perkins was never rancorous, and often acknowledged Presley's supremacy.

In his autobiography, published last year, Perkins writes about his best-known song: "I'm proud that song relieved some tension, even if it was only two minutes and 45 seconds long. 'Cause I don't think anybody worried about anything when they were listening to *Blue Suede Shoes*."



Perkins: car crash hurt his career

Serb stands trial for the massacre of 200

BY BEN MACINTYRE

THE first war crimes suspect arrested by international troops in former Yugoslavia went on trial in The Hague yesterday, accused of participation in a 1991 massacre motivated by "hatred based on prejudice and intolerance".

Prosecutors said that Slavko Dokmanovic, 48, a Croatian Serb, played a key role in the torture and murder of more than 200 people in the Croatian town of Vukovar. Mr Dokmanovic has pleaded not guilty to six charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity. He faces life imprisonment if convicted.

On November 20 1991, after an artillery bombardment of Vukovar, Yugoslav Army troops and Serb paramilitaries rounded up 200 non-Serbs from their refuge at the city hospital and drove them to a wooded ravine outside the city where they were beaten, shot and then buried in a mass grave, according to the indictment from the UN War Crimes Tribunal.



Dokmanovic: accused of organising the killings

The victims of the massacre, which Mr Dokmanovic allegedly helped to organise, were mostly Croatian civilians who willingly accompanied their Serb captors believing they were about to be handed over to international forces. Mr Dokmanovic was arrested by UN troops in the Eastern Slavonia region of Croatia last June, after an indictment was handed down by the tribunal in strict secrecy to prevent him from fleeing.

A former community leader in Vukovar, Mr Dokmanovic was lured from his home in Serbia. His claims to have been kidnapped were rejected by the tribunal's appeal judges. An indictment against Mr Dokmanovic and three former officers of the federal Yugoslav Army still at large in Serbia includes a list of 253 alleged victims of the November 20 massacre and others murdered after the fall of Vukovar, which was finally returned to Croatian control in a ceremony last Thursday.

The trial marks the first time the UN court has specifically considered crimes allegedly committed by the Serb-led former Yugoslav Army. "The motivation for these murders was hatred based on prejudice and intolerance. There can be no justification for these crimes. The criminal activity that underscored these events was on a scale that shocks the conscience of mankind," Grant Niemann, the prosecutor, said. Some of the intended victims, who escaped because they knew one of the Serb "executioners", are expected to provide crucial testimony.

☐ **Belgrade:** Nato's stabilisation force troops in Bosnia yesterday surrounded key ministries loyal to Dr Radovan Karadzic, the war crimes suspect, as a warning to hardline Bosnian Serbs not to rebel against their new moderate Government, which includes 18 Muslims (Tom Walker writes). The British spokesman for the force in Sarajevo, Major Peter Clarke, said that, although tension was high throughout the eastern Bosnian Serb territory still controlled by the Karadzic faction, there had been no incidents. Nato patrols had been stepped up.

Disabled golfer sues to ride on course

BY TUNKU VARADARAJAN

A DISABLED golfer who can take no more than five steps at a time has sued the Professional Golf Association (PGA), the sport's governing body, for the right to ride a motorised cart between holes at tournaments.

PGA rules state unambiguously that professional golfers must walk the course. The association is adamant that Casey Martin, a 25-year-old player once on the same Stanford University golf team as "Tiger" Woods, should either do so or find another job.

Alleging those rules prevent him unfairly from earning a livelihood, Mr Martin has brought suit under the American With Disabilities Act, the first professional athlete to do so. The PGA says the Act — designed to protect disabled employees from discrimination by employers — does not apply. It is not an "employer", professional golfers being "self-employed". The case will be heard on February 2.

Some professional golfers, including Mr Woods and Jack Nicklaus, have come out against Mr Martin, saying a cart would give him an unfair advantage in match-play. Mr Martin has a circulatory disorder. His condition is deteriorating fast: denied a cart, his professional career is in effect over.

THE TIMES

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Another month over and deeper in doubt

BABY WARS

In the second extract from their book *Baby Wars*, Dr Robin Baker and Elizabeth Oram explain why infertility persists and how science can help



THE KOBAL COLLECTION

The thin blue line test: when conception is a problem, relationships are placed under enormous strain. The resulting stress makes a successful pregnancy still more unlikely

The couple had been together for eight years before deciding the time had come to start a family. Now they looked back in disbelief at all those years of contraception, at the weeks of worry that she might be pregnant if they took a chance, or if she missed a pill, or if a condom misbehaved.

For six months now they had been having the most active sex life without a contraceptive in sight, and still she had not conceived. When they first began their conception campaign, the greater sensations of unprotected sex and the prospect of conception had fuelled their sexual excitement. The decision to conceive had revitalised what, if they were honest, had become a flagging and routine sexual relationship.

But things began to change when her first period, then her second and third, came and went. They began to read books, to seek the advice of fertile friends — and to worry. They could not begin to question his fertility. With his high sex drive, they took his potency for granted. So, they reasoned, it had to be her. They began to fret that it had been a mistake to wait until she was 30 before trying to start a family.

Having rung the changes on everything they could think of — frequency, clothes, position — in desperation they decided to try changing the location. Although rational people, they began to blame the house for their failure. They reasoned that if they had sex in a more "natural" place, maybe conception would be automatic.

Early in the ninth month they used the garden, sneaking out naked, blanket in hand, to have sex under the stars. Two nights later, in a rush of madness, they ran out in the middle of a thunderstorm and did it in torrential rain on the grass.

Both found the risk of being seen exciting, and began trying to think of alternatives to their garden. In part this stemmed from a need to generate sexual excitement where it no longer existed. But it was also, in part, to pander to their irrational superstition that the more daring the location, the more likely her body was to be "shocked" into conception.

The previous Sunday, they drove into the country to a wood they knew. Carrying their clothes in a bag, they walked naked through the wood, hiding behind trees whenever anyone approached. Their task was to reach a river, nearly a mile away, without being seen — or at least, without being arrested. The excitement of naked vulnerability and the thrill of success in their task meant that when eventually they slipped down the side of the riverbank to lie in the tall grass, the sex they had was the most satisfying for months. As they dressed to walk home, both felt that if they had not succeeded this month, they never would.

How can it be that after millions of years of evolution, with natural selection acting rigorously in each generation on something as fundamental as conception, a couple can still have such trouble producing a baby? There are many possible answers, and almost all derive from the basic fact that conception is a battle — either a battle between the couple and other (infectious) organisms, or between the couple themselves.

Considering that sex and procreation are so important in people's lives, most of us are surprisingly uninformed on the subject. The childless couple can become increasingly confused and irrational about what is needed for conception to take place. Was it a mistake to wait so long before trying to start a family? How could they tell the best stage in her cycle to have sex? How *often* should they have sex? What position should they adopt? How important was it that she had an orgasm during intercourse? Should he avoid hot baths and tight underpants?

The truth is that, as long as they are both fertile, none of these factors matters. All couples really need to do is to have sex whenever, wherever and in whatever position appeals to them. Then, if the man and the moment are right for her body, the woman will conceive. Natural selection has in fact been very efficient at shaping the path to conception. What people fail to appreciate is that just because their conscious brains tell them it would be convenient to conceive *now*, to do so is not always in their long-term reproductive interests. A person's body knows this and makes its own judgments.

A worldwide study carried out by the World Health Organisation, published in 1990, concluded that about 15 per cent of people are infertile. (In industrial countries the figure is nearer 10 per cent and roughly equal for men and women.) This means that about one in six couples worldwide find it difficult or impossible to conceive. In a third of such couples, the problem lies with the man, in a third with the woman, and in the remaining third with both.

If a couple have not conceived after two years of unprotected sex, without medical assistance they have only a one in four chance of conceiving thereafter. It is quite likely, therefore, that such a couple will not be able to solve their problem simply by continuing to have sex. On the other hand, there is a good chance that medical tests will identify the cause of their problem.

But why has natural selection not rid humankind of such a basic problem as infertility? The answer, which will surprise many people, is that more than half of the cases of human infertility are due not to a failure of the body, but to disease — infections of the urinogenital system that find their way into oviducts or sperm storage tubules, causing inflammation and blockages. The result is that eggs and sperm are unable to reach the destinations necessary for fertilisation.

> 'With his high sex drive, they took his potency for granted'

Sometimes such infections cause only temporary bouts of infertility, but others can cause enduring blockages and hence permanent infertility. Such diseases include what might appear to be innocuous childhood infections, passing irritations that are scarcely noticed. If a person is unlucky, however, a single bout of a urinogenital infection can cause a lifetime of infertility.

The point is that disease organisms have their own way to make in the world, and natural selection has no allegiances. If any of these organisms produces a mechanism to further its reproduction at the expense of ours, natural selection will favour it; if we can do the same, it will favour us. The consequence is an evolutionary arms race between diseases and ourselves which neither side has yet won. Fortunately for us, while people respond to infection by developing disease and infertility, and some do not.

The unfortunate 10 per cent of people who are infertile or subfertile can almost certainly be helped. Surgery, hormone therapy, in-vitro fertilisation (IVF) or even surrogacy can in principle bypass most such problems. IVF allows the woman's egg to be fertilised in a dish, circumventing obstacles such as blocked oviducts. IVF also offers a solution if the man has difficulties with sperm production or insemination.

In most IVF treatments, the fertilised egg is reimplanted in the mother's womb, although it can be introduced into the womb of a surrogate mother.

But not all lengthy conception campaigns are due to infertility or subfertility. Many are set in motion by temporary conditions that eventually clear, enabling a couple suddenly and seemingly inexplicably to achieve conception.

In such cases, one of the most important factors is stress. Financial hardship, cramped living conditions, accident, illness or death within the family, or worries about a relationship, can all produce stress, and stress is a powerful contraceptive which can cause loss of libido, erection difficulties, failure to ovulate, failure to implant and miscarriage. Men are also more likely to produce infertile ejaculates. The net result is that the more stressed a couple are, the less likely they are to conceive — and this can itself generate more stress.

Couples should avoid conception when times are bad — and by linking stress with conception, natural selection has done just that. It has shaped their bodies' chemistry to make sure that, for the time being, they do not embark on something as demanding as parenthood — for their own *long-term* reproductive good.

TOMORROW

Sibling rivalry: Why do brothers and sisters compete? Part three of Baby Wars looks at the tightrope that families walk between co-operation and conflict.

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When the worm turns

MEDICINE CHEST
DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

Fifty years ago when a mother was confronted by a child looking pale and wan and who had dark shadows under the eyes, or who was irritable, sleepless and fretful, she immediately thought that her offspring was suffering from worms.

At about the time Christopher Robin and his contemporaries were being looked after by nannies, those who looked after children were obsessed with worms. They not only believed that they caused these and other more distressing psychological symptoms, but that they also induced ill-health.

Worms were blamed for loss of appetite and weight, anaemia and diarrhoea, failure to thrive and academic dullness at school. Worms were then, as now, ubiquitous but unfortunately at that time their treatment was not only uncertain but very unpleasant.

Few people now believe that the commonly found threadworm is responsible for serious ill-health, or for defeating the Government's targets in early education.

The concept of worms, however, is still as disgusting as it has ever been. Parents find the thought that their glorious tousle-haired children are harbouring a primitive fauna most unpleasant. What they do not realise is that it is an equally if not more repulsive thought for their children.

The perceived opinion now is that children should not be shown the small thread-like wriggly worms which look like tiny pieces of animated cotton. The worms inhabit the upper part of the large intestine around the caecum and appendix but the females migrate at night, when the child is tucked up warm in bed, and wriggle out on to the peri-anal area to lay their eggs.

The worms' nocturnal activity sets up an irritation around the child's anus — in small girls the vulva is infected too — and the children respond by scratching vigorously.

The eggs which the female has laid are then transferred to the mouth when the child sucks its thumb. They are swallowed and later hatch in the small intestine before moving to the large gut.

The worms have only a comparatively short life-span of a few weeks in the intestines, so if the scratching can be prevented, the nails kept short and the hands frequently washed, the infection soon dies out. Taking morning baths for a time are also a wise precaution.

It is said that 80 per cent of all children have threadworms at some time during their childhood, almost certainly an underestimate as it is likely that all children will have had them, albeit that their parents have not always looked for them.

If parents find the diagnosis of worms in their children disagreeable, they are often even more dismayed to learn that almost invariably when a child has threadworms the whole household, parents, siblings, even visiting grandparents, have probably caught them as well — and will need treatment.

Fortunately treatment is easy. Threadworms respond to a single dose of Vermox mebendazole. It is a suitable treatment for all those over the age of two. Younger children need to be treated with Pripsen.

The horror of threadworms is nothing compared with the anxiety that used to be felt about tapeworms. Taenia saginata, which is caught from under-cooked beef, and Taenia solium, which lives in pork, are now rarely seen in Britain but were at one time thought to be an even more potent cause of loss of weight and general debility than threadworms.

Modern meat inspection has seen the end of "measly" pork and beef in the Western world, but when travelling to exotic spots it is as well to insist that these meats are well cooked.

Although the tapeworm lives in the gut, the embryo penetrates the gut walls and can be transported to the muscles, where it causes the measly appearance, or to the brain, where its presence was an occasional cause of epilepsy.

Tapeworms may be treated with Yomesan niclosamide. Another drug praziquantel is also effective but it is not yet licensed for this purpose in the United Kingdom.

Worms in puppies are even more common than they are in toddlers, to whom they represent a possible danger. A common roundworm to be found in dogs is Toxocara canis. It is transmitted to the puppy while it is *in utero*, so that by the age of three or four weeks they are being excreted in enormous quantities.

If a child plays with the puppy, stroking its fur, or comes into contact with the faeces in some other way, it too may become infected and occasionally may in consequence suffer damage to the retina.

The bitch invariably swallows the eggs, which lie dormant within her until she again becomes pregnant. Roundworms may also be treated with Vermox.

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Voyage to America: **Erica Wagner** introduces the third extract from *Birthday Letters*

Shadows darken a Cape Cod idyll

Flounders

Tide turns on a promising future

IN THE summer of 1957 Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes left for America. Their prospects seemed full of promise. In February Hughes's *The Hawk in the Rain* had won the New York Poetry Center competition (judged by W. H. Auden, Stephen Spender and Marianne Moore). Plath had typed it herself and sent it to the competition for him; she also had great hopes for her own book, tentatively titled *Two Lovers and a Beachcomber*. She had won a job teaching at her alma mater, Smith College; Hughes was to write and teach English and creative writing at the University of Massachusetts. His poem *The Thought Fox* was accepted by the *New Yorker* that summer, though it had been rejected a year earlier.

Before they started teaching, however, they spent the summer in Cape Cod. Both poets wrote and swam, sunbathed and fished. Plath was struggling with short stories, which she hoped to see published in such American magazines as the Saturday *Evening Post*. Writing some years later, Hughes reflects on the various moments when their relationship may have begun to fail. In *Flounders* he relates how one day they were nearly swept out to sea in their rowing boat in rough weather; and how a passing motorboat rescued them from near disaster.

Ted Hughes and Sylvia Plath's marriage begins to crack beneath the strain of crossing the Atlantic and the birth of their daughter



Courtesy, The Lilly Library, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana

Sylvia Plath with their first child, Frieda

Was that a happy day? From Chatham
Down at the South end of the Cape, our map
Somebody's optimistic assurance,
We set out to row. We got ourselves
Into mid-channel. The tide was flowing. We hung
Anchored. Northward-pulling, our baited leads
Bounced and bounced the bottom. For three hours –
Two or three sea-robins. Cruisers
Folded us under their bow-waves, we bobbed up,
Happy enough. But the wind
Smartened against us, and the tide turned, roughening.
Dragged seaward. We rowed. We rowed. We
Saw we weren't going to make it. We turned,
Cutting downwind for the sand-bar, beached
And wondered what next. It was there
I found a horse-shoe crab's carapace, perfect,
No bigger than a bee, in honey-pale Cellophane.
No way back. But big, good America found us.
A power-boat and a pilot of no problems.
He roped our boat to his stern and with all his family
Slammed back across the channel into the wind,
The spray scything upwards, our boat behind
Twisting across the wake-boil – a hectic
Four or five minutes and he cast us off
In the lee of the land, but a mile or more
From our dock. We toiled along inshore. We came
To a back-channel, under beach-house gardens – marsh grass,
Wild, original greenery of America,
Mud-slicks and fiddler-crab warrens, as we groped
Towards the harbour. Gloom-rich water. Something
Suggested easy plenty. We lowered baits,
And out of about six feet of water
Six or seven feet from land, we pulled up flounders
Big as big plates, till all our bait had gone.
After our wind-burned, head-glitter day of emptiness,
And the slogging row for our lives, and the rescue,
Suddenly out of water easy as oil
The sea piled our boat with its surplus. And the day
Curled out of brilliant, arduous morning,
Through wind-hammered perilous afternoon,
Salt-scoured, to a storm-gold evening, a luxury
Of rowing among the dream-yachts of the rich
Lolling at anchor off the play-world pier.

How tiny an adventure
To stay so monumental in our marriage,
A slight ordeal of all that might be,
And a small thrill-breath of what many live by,
And a small prize, a toy miniature
Of the life that might have bonded us
Into a single animal, a single soul –

It was a visit from the goddess, the beauty
Who was poetry's sister – she had come
To tell poetry she was spoiling us.
Poetry listened, maybe, but we heard nothing
And poetry did not tell us. And we
Only did what poetry told us to do.

The Minotaur

Of death and destruction

DURING June of 1958 Plath was teaching at Smith, an experience she found difficult and enervating. To her delight, however, she had two poems accepted by the *New Yorker*. In September she and her husband moved to Boston, where they attended Robert Lowell's poetry seminars and encountered Robert Frost. In April of 1959 Hughes was awarded a $5,000 Guggenheim grant.

They returned to London in January 1960. Sylvia was pregnant with Frieda, who painted the cover for *Birthday Letters*. Hughes's reputation was growing: later that year his second book of poems, *Lupercal*, would be published; his children's book, *Meet My Folks!*, would also appear, and three of his short stories would be published in a Faber anthology. Plath signed a contract with Heinemann for her first book of poems, *The Colossus*.

But tensions within the marriage were now becoming evident to friends and associates. While in America she had visited the grave of her father, a figure who haunts this poem, *The Minotaur*. She would, on occasion, identify Hughes with Otto Plath: she admitted as much in her journal. Her anger at Otto abandoning her by his death when she was eight was perhaps expressed in her furious fear of Hughes abandoning her, too. In 1961 Hughes arranged to make a series of broadcasts with the BBC, *Listening and Writing*. It was after agreeing to this that Hughes returned to their flat to find that Plath had destroyed all his work in progress.

The mahogany table-top you smashed
Had been the broad plank top
Of my mother's heirloom sideboard –
Mapped with the scars of my whole life.

That came under the hammer.
The high stool you swung that day
Demented by my being
Twenty minutes late for baby-minding.

'Marvellous!' I shouted. 'Go on,
Smash it into kindling.
That's the stuff you're keeping out of your poems!'
And later, considered and calmer,

'Get that shoulder under your stanzas
And we'll be away.' Deep in the cave of your ear
The goblin snapped his fingers.
So what had I given him?

The bloody end of the skein
That unravelled your marriage,
Left your children echoing
Like tunnels in a labyrinth.

Left your mother a dead-end,
Brought you to the horned, bellowing
Grave of your risen father –
And your own corpse in it.

Daffodils

Not all is rosy in the garden

IN THE summer of 1961, still hoping to find a better life, the Hugheses decided to leave London for the country. Their daughter Frieda had been born on April 1, 1960, and at the end of August that year Plath had written to her mother: "Our wish now is to get a car, a beach-wagony affair, tour Cornwall and Devon and buy a spreading country house with some land and settle down to write and raise a family." The house they finally found was called Court Green, a thatched home near a Dartmoor village in North Devon. They moved at the end of August, 1961. Plath, pregnant with their son Nicholas, had completed *The Bell Jar*, fulfilling her previously frustrated dreams of being a novelist.

Plath seemed to love her new home: "The house is white, with a black trim and this primeval peaked thatch. We have just over two acres of land, mostly stinging nettle, but Ted is digging up the big vegetable garden and we'll hope to live on them . . . I have a tiny front lawn carved out of the wilderness — a laburnum tree, lilacs and a few rose bushes. We adjoin the town church, Anglican, with its own eight famous bell-ringers."

But the imagery in Plath's poetry from this time is often dark and forbidding, the blackness and silence of *The Moon and the Yew Tree*, the "constriction" of *The Rabbit Catcher*. The tension between Hughes, the English countryman, and Plath, the urban American, were coming closer to the surface. In April 1962 — "your last April" as Hughes writes in *Daffodils*, she wrote to her mother: "Our daffodils are in full bloom; we picked about 1,000 this week, and I look out over a literal sea of several thousand more."

Remember how we picked the daffodils?
Nobody else remembers, but I remember.
Your daughter came with her armfuls, eager and happy,
Helping the harvest. She has forgotten.
She cannot even remember you. And we sold them.
It sounds like sacrilege, but we sold them.
Were we so poor? Old Stoneman, the grocer,
Boss-eyed, his blood-pressure purpling to beetroot
(It was his last chance,
He would die in the same great freeze as you),
He persuaded us. Every Spring
He always bought them, sevenpence a dozen,
'A custom of the house.'

Besides, we still weren't sure we wanted to own
Anything. Mainly we were hungry
To convert everything to profit.
Still nomads – still strangers
To our whole possession. The daffodils
Were incidental gilding of the deeds,
Treasure trove. They simply came,
And they kept on coming.
As if not from the sod but falling from heaven.
Our lives were still a raid on our own good luck.
We knew we'd live for ever. We had not learned
What a fleeting glance of the everlasting
Daffodils are. Never identified
The nuptial flight of the rarest ephemera –
Our own days!
We thought they were a windfall.
Never guessed they were a last blessing.

So we sold them. We worked at selling them
As if employed on somebody else's
Flower-farm. You bent at it
In the rain of that April – your last April.
We bent there together, among the soft shrieks
Of their jostled stems, the wet shocks shaken
Of their girlish dance-frocks –
Fresh-opened dragonflies, wet and flimsy,
Opened too early.

We piled their frailty lights on a carpenter's bench,
Distributed leaves among the dozens –
Buckling blade-leaves, limber, groping for air, zinc-silvered –
Propped their raw butts in bucket water.
Their oval, meaty butts,
And sold them, sevenpence a bunch –

Wind-wounds, spasms from the dark earth,
With their odourless metals,
A flamy purification of the deep grave's stony cold
As if ice had a breath –

We sold them, to wither.
The crop thickened faster than we could thin it.
Finally, we were overwhelmed
And we lost our wedding-present scissors.

Every March since they have lifted again
Out of the same bulbs, the same
Baby-cries from the thaw,
Ballerinas too early for music, shiverers
In the draughty wings of the year,
On that same groundswell of memory, fluttering.

They return to forget you stooping there
Behind the rainy curtains of a dark April,
Snipping their stems.

But somewhere your scissors remember. Wherever they are.
Here somewhere, blades wide open,
April by April
Sinking deeper
Through the sod – an anchor, a cross of rust.

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TOMORROW: Plath is dragged further into her obsession with Daddy

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Is Blair a new Ramsay MacDonald?

Tony Benn sees ominous parallels with the 1931 National Government

Sixty-eight years ago, in June 1930, I was taken as a child to watch the Trooping the Colour from the balcony outside 10 Downing Street, and can clearly remember being briefly introduced to Ramsay MacDonald, then Prime Minister of a Labour Government.

The following year, under pressure from the Governor of the Bank of England, and bankers in New York and Paris, and to meet the strict criteria required for Britain to remain on the Gold Standard, Mr MacDonald proposed a series of drastic cuts in public expenditure and entered into private talks with Conservative and Liberal leaders.

Labour's national executive, which had been informally consulted about the crisis, "agreed to leave the whole question with the Government". However, the TUC, which had been given only an outline of what was happening, expressed its opposition and this was dismissed as being based on "no real appreciation of the seriousness of the situation".

All these discussions are recorded in the Cabinet minutes. At six dramatic meetings the cuts were discussed and agreed, save only one — the proposal to reduce the level of unemployment benefit by 10 per cent — on which the Cabinet was divided. Accordingly Mr MacDonald, having won the promise of support from the Tories and Liberals, announced that he was tendering his resignation to the King, and would be forming a National Government. This he did and in the general election that followed, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Philip Snowden, who had gone with Mr MacDonald into the coalition, described Labour's manifesto as being "Bolshevism run mad", and only 52 Labour MPs were elected to the new Parliament.

There are some parallels with that period which we would do well to remember now, particularly since the International Monetary Fund is trying to impose 1931-style cuts on the ailing "tiger" economies, which bode ill for our economy too.

The renaming of the Labour Party as "old Labour", the clear implication that Clause Four was Bolshevist and had to be dropped, the description of "new Labour" as a new political party and the deliberate distancing of that party from the trade unions, certainly have echoes with the past. More importantly, the Maastricht criteria, which Britain must meet if it is to join the European single currency, like the criteria to remain on the Gold Standard, require severe public spending cuts which are being presented to us in the guise of "modernising" the welfare state.

Unlike the highly secret negotiations with the Tories and Liberals in 1931, inter-party agreement is taking place in the full glare of publicity. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, and some of his colleagues have been appointed to a consultative Cabinet committee and there is even talk of giving him a proper Cabinet position. Kenneth Clarke, though denied these privileges, has the satisfaction of seeing many of his policies, for example on public expenditure and income tax, being faithfully followed by his successor, and the Tories happily voted with the Government in the social security Bill, which cut the benefits for lone parents.

Other Tory grandees, such as Sir Edward Heath, Michael Heseltine and Lord Howe of Aberavon, have publicly pledged their support for the Government's European policy and, when we have the referendum on the single currency, the leading figures from all three parties will be appearing together on joint platforms, as they did in 1975, and with the same fervour as they showed when Britain entered the ill-fated exchange-rate mechanism.

The Labour Party, inside and outside Parliament, has been almost completely left outside these arrangements, its national conference neutered and its NEC tamely rubber-stamping whatever policies are announced. Meanwhile, from across the whole spectrum of opinion inside the Labour Party, a consensus is emerging in favour of very different policies, including full employment; trade union rights; redistributive taxation; expanded public services; comprehensive education; and the return of the link between pensions and earnings. Many who have never been on the Left are now finding common ground with others who are well-known for their commitment to radical socialism.

The strong vote against the cuts in lone parent benefits, and the abstentions by others on December 10, was in no sense a rebellion against the common sense of the Cabinet by a handful of trouble-makers who could be identified and expelled. It really marked the reappearance on the political scene of the Labour Party itself, and the flood of supportive letters that has flowed in to those of us who voted for the lone parents tends to confirm the judgment of May 1, when voters voted for a real change.

Set against this background, it may be possible to identify the outlines of a major political realignment, which seems to be on its way as a natural progression from the emergence of "new Labour". It could be triggered off if new Labour does badly in the London borough elections next summer, the European elections in 1999, in by-elections, or even in the first elections for the Scottish parliament and the Welsh assembly. It may not happen until the euro referendum takes place, when some cross-party linkage will be so strong as to constitute a genuine realignment.

All this may be speculation but it is clear that progressive opinion inside and outside the Labour Party will not just disappear, and it enjoys strong national support.

Those who believe in the essential tenets of the Labour Movement are beginning to wonder what would happen if "new Labour" were ever to decide that it had more allies in other parties than it can find in its own.



"MAKES YOU FEEL QUITE AT HOME, DOESN'T IT?"

Lifting Plath's bell jar

Ted Hughes has delighted his children by exorcising old hatreds and old griefs

Libby Purves

"Beware, beware!" wrote Sylvia Plath in one of her most furious, agonised poems of suicide: "Out of the ash/ I rise with my red hair/ And I eat men like air." Her images of self-destructive rage and unimaginable mental struggle have haunted us for 35 years: ever since, in a cold London winter, she left milk and biscuits for her children and lay down to die. "Dying is an art," she had written. "I do it exceptionally well." She was 33. Her oeuvre was small but not slight: her unnerving intensity has never been eclipsed.

But it has been hijacked. Plath's torments were all her own, born of difficulties with the memory of her father, Otto, who died when she was eight. But her temperament and vivid expressive gift ensured that the volcanic emotion of the *Ariel* poems and her novel of suicidal depression, *The Bell Jar*, have provoked three decades of dangerous empathy. They became identified with all that lies unresolved between fathers and daughters, men and women. The angriest school of feminism seized on the images in her poems — the Nazi, the great marble weight, the heavy black shoe encasing a soft helpless foot — and made her a martyr. Her estrangement from her husband, Ted Hughes, persuaded women with private angers of their own that the real-life husband was the same black vampire as the agonising father of Plath's imagination. He was made a symbol of domineering male evil and accused of murder. Women came by night to Heptonstall churchyard to hack the name Hughes from Sylvia Plath Hughes's tombstone.

I skimmed the Internet yesterday to taste three decades of this curdled anger, and found 1,234 pages of Plath — everything from an American Women's Studies freshman excoriating phallocracy to a man, confiding: "You wave the Sylvia Plath book and know that this will get you a chick". Another man writes: "Hey, Sylvia Plath, you're a psycho ... good riddance in hell, you bitch!" That is the lurid world in which her memory has lived for three decades. Now, in a literary bombshell, Ted Hughes has published poetic journals which bring her back as a phoenix of far gentler colours. He shows that he loved her and that it was not always easy. He mourned her bleak passing. He brought up her children, and tells us in one of the later poems in *Birthday Letters* (to be published in *The Times* this week) how moved he is by the memory of her slender hands, reproduced in the hands of their adult daughter.

It is that daughter and her brother — that generation, whose rights were so long overlooked by prattling literati — that I would most want to celebrate today. Frieda Hughes is a painter, and I have counted her a friend for ten years.

Her hair is flaming phoenix red, her paintings arresting and sometimes gruesome, engaged with death and resurrection: her most recent series depicts the regrowth of trees from blackened stumps, and on my desk is a card of an early work, a Tree of Life with tangled bones and skulls at its root and a romp of bright living animals growing from the branches. When we first met I was moved by her intensity — I hasten to say that it is generally a very high-spirited, undepressed intensity — and by the power of her work. I was equally, though silently, moved to reflect that this was Plath's first baby: the child for whom she wrote the chucklingly joyful poem beginning "Love set you going like a fat gold watch" and her wondering hymn to the foetus — "A clean slate, with your own face on". Frieda told me then, unemphatically, that she had never read her mother's poems or biographies, and would not until she was ready.

Her three-year-old's memories are sketchy and disjointed, but all the more precious and private for that; her childhood was lovingly supported by a good stepmother and a father who was, she says, always there, and taught her to read at three. Struggling as an artist she refused to use her tragic parentage for publicity, and thus held the crazy corrosive legend at bay.

She had to. A suicidal mother is difficult enough to come to terms with, without a maelstrom of other people's hysteria. She remembers visiting the grave in Yorkshire and finding the headstone off for repairs after an anti-Hughes assault by those who delude themselves that they are Plath's defenders, and flowers left by people who had never known her. "I felt usurped". During the literary world's most recent uproar about rival Plath biographies, she prudently decamped to the Australian desert to paint (her brother lives in Alaska). When she returned for gallery shows in Britain she kept her parentage out of the publicity, and shuddered when, with a certain weird venom, certain critics jeeringly raised it. Her parents' intensity, though, is not extinct in her. Recently she entered for the prestigious Australian Doug Moran prize a huge portrait of her husband, László Lukacs, her biggest work ever. While undertaking the work she injured her right arm but could not let go the evolving vision: she instantly began painting with her left. "I just thought, flip your brain over and the hand will know what to do, and it did." She was shortlisted. Now she often paints with both hands simultaneously, "like a drummer, or a dance".

She grew, and flourished, and was not prepared to be a victim or a specimen. Four years ago, past the age of her mother's death, she ended her deliberate ignorance and read Plath's work at last. Her adult confidence — and that of her brother, Nicholas — must be one reason why Hughes at last feels able to raise Sylvia Plath's ghost so powerfully. They are both happy about the new book. I spoke to Frieda yesterday (back in Australia for the moment) and she expressed calm delight on behalf of both children that her father has at last publicly reclaimed the reality of their mother and ended the years of usurpation and shrill, angry, politically motivated theft of memory.

For theft it is, and a kind which we should forever beware of. Last September on Radio 4's *Midweek* she talked briefly to me about an exhibition and about the memory of her mother. But an unforeseen edge was in it: for this was "Diana week", that orgy of floral mourning when, in the wake of another early death, another generation began to usurp and embroider the life of a woman they did not know and to weave angry fantasies of blame and hatred around her former husband.

As an army of private, neurotic, phantom, symbolic Dianas rose around us, Frieda Hughes more than anyone felt for the boys whose father and family were being vilified, and whose mother's grave had perforce to be hidden from mawkish intruders on an island in a lake.

She is a poet, too, tentative and as yet unpublished: because of what had happened I asked her to give us the poem which she wrote about her mother and the Plath "industry". It is called *Readers* and in shocking images of exhumation, dismemberment and cannibalism she writes of those who took "one who did their suffering for them" and "fingered through her mental 'underwear'". These readers' mothers, she said, lay in quiet graves while:

> They dug mine up
> Right down to the shells
> I scattered on her coffin.
> They turned her over like meat
> On coals, to find the secrets
> Of her withered thighs and
> shrunken breasts.
> They scooped out her eyes to see
> How she saw.
> And bit away her tongue
> In tiny mouthfuls to speak
> With her voice . . .
> They called her theirs.
> All this time I had
> Thought she belonged
> To me most.

It is a strong, shocking poem. You can hear Hughes in it and Plath too, but it is unchallengeably a new generation there, speaking out angrily and far from weakly on behalf of the rights of real loss, and of real families forever elbowed aside by our self-indulgent need to build legends.

Sylvia Plath should be proud of the clean slates, the new faces that she and her husband made during their happy time. Look at Frieda Hughes's paintings and you see a fierce, springing vitality, a raw brave ebullient belief in resurgent life which is hers alone. One of her *Fire* paintings is on the cover of her father's book in honour of his first wife, which is just as it should be. This week old griefs and old lives and old hatreds are exorcised and the new generation can step forward, with its own face on.

Ministry of empty promises

Anatole Kaletsky says the dome is Labour's symbol

In the graveyard of prime ministerial reputations, the monuments are usually constructed by the dear departed themselves. John Major, a modest and meticulous man, took the trouble to build his monument even before he became Prime Minister. All he wanted was a plain tombstone with the simplest possible inscription, but one carved in granite: ERM. Tony Blair's monument is planned on a pharaonic scale. It is designed to straddle the decades and even the centuries. It is supposed to inspire the young and the old, to become a talking point the world over and to take years to finish. In fact, it may never be finished.

I refer not only to Mr Blair's project of rebuilding the British welfare state, but also to the physical symbol of all the Prime Minister's grandiloquent ambitions: the Millennium Dome. For some time the dome has seemed a fitting symbol for many of the new Government's faults: the worship of everything modern, fashionable and *nouveau riche*; the fawning on self-made millionaires and trendy designers; the fear of reversing batty ideas left over from the Tory years. Above all, it stands for the inability to set rational priorities for public money. But it was not until the last few days, with the launching of Mr Blair's crusade to reform the welfare state, that the full significance of the dome has become apparent.

The dome that is rising over the mudflats of Greenwich is the tangible manifestation of new Labour's new socialism: a vast synthetic membrane, stretched tightly over a few solid girders, to enclose a record-breaking volume of empty space and hot air. The dome and its management symbolise the triumph of form over substance, of presentation over content, of secrecy over candour, of blustering superficial confidence over internal confusion. It is clear why Peter Mandelson is so obsessed with controlling every feature of its creation. It is even clearer why the architects and builders involved in constructing the dome's superficial exterior seem supremely confident, while the designers, promoters and artists whose job was to fill it are behaving like rats on a sinking ship. The dome is the spirit of the spin-doctor made flesh!

What has all this to do with welfare reform? Mr Blair has described welfare reform as a gigantic undertaking, a programme which symbolises his Government's seriousness about facing the future. He is travelling up and down the country to drum up support for his new vision of a new welfare state. But in all his fine speeches, Mr Blair has failed to say a single word about what he wants to do. In fact, far from announcing a plethora of exciting new policies, the main import of Mr Blair's speeches has been to rule out all the ideas which other ministers had proposed. There will be no cuts to benefits for the "truly needy". There will be no "affluence testing" for child benefit and pensions. There will be no pressure on the poor and genuinely disabled with new means tests and no betrayals of the middle class by imposing tax increases under the guise of welfare reform.

All of these promises may be perfectly reasonable, since the welfare state is not really in the desperate straits which Mr Blair suggests. The question, however, is how on earth he plans to construct a revolutionary new policy out of all these negatives.

The welfare programme, like the dome, is being constructed from the skin inwards. Mr Blair wants a big new welfare structure but, like Mr Mandelson, either he has no idea of what to put inside it or he refuses to say, because he believes it is not politically expedient to do so. Instead of talking about how wonderful the welfare structure would look from outside, and how important it will be for the nation's self-respect, Mr Blair could have started on the inside. He could have distinguished between the four main purposes of the welfare state — saving for retirement, income redistribution, insurance for unexpected contingencies and the provision of public goods such as education — and explained why the last three should remain in the public sector while the first should be largely privatised.

By thinking about the issues of welfare, instead of their presentation, Mr Blair might even have seen that there need be no contradiction between his warring lieutenants, Frank Field and Gordon Brown. Mr Field's support for privatisation may be appropriate to pensions, while Mr Brown's demands for more targeting may make sense when it comes to child benefits and tax reform.

But welfare reform is riven by personality clashes, just like the dome. The dome was vigorously opposed by Mr Brown who has now become the victim of a vicious whispering campaign from Mr Mandelson's camp. As construction costs mount, which they they surely will, the dome will surely become a Treasury weapon against Mr Mandelson. The dome not only symbolises the emptiness of new Labour. It will also become a symbol of the inflated egos of politicians, which sooner or later help to bring every government down.

Greer's web

LOTHARIOS beware: Germaine Greer is to call for the establishment of a worldwide "dating dossier" allowing women to swap information on the Internet about men they have dated (including their "vital statistics"). Now a fully-fledged cyber-feminist, Ms Greer thinks that technology is the way to fight the male enemy. "You go out with someone, and he does x, y, z things that are insensitive or pathetic," says the author of *The Female Eunuch*. "If he doesn't call you ever again, and that's his pattern ... put it on the net." Behavioural failings are just the beginning: "You can put in his vital statistics if you want. But you can also include details about the way he talks ... and the ridiculous things that he claims about himself so that someone who decides to go out with him anyway can figure out whether she is ahead of the game or not." Greer says this dossier should be in addition to a "register of rapists" (all men, according to her more extreme sisters). But her plan, suggested to Beeb, part of the BBC's Internet site, looks like upsetting sensitive male sorts.

"It should work the other way. We could find out what women are like," said Bernard Manning, the important stand-up comedian. "Anyone making love to Greer should have their guide dog confiscated and be awarded the Victoria Cross." How unkind. Ms Greer is welcome to begin her research at Diary Towers...



Odd fellows: Greer, Manning

● *BELEAGUERED spin-doctor Charlie Whelan now describes the Gordon Brown biography as "complete balls". I trust he is not hinting that his colleague, Ed Balls, is to blame.*

Fantasy films

THE erotic fantasies of Tony Blair's press secretary, Alastair Campbell, are at last to be brought before public scrutiny: the film producer, Vera Productions, is adapting one of his pieces of erotic fiction for Channel 4. The company is hoping to screen it on the French Porn Channel. *Eurotica Rendez Vous*, which is under threat of being banned by Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary. *Busking with Bagpipes*, written soon after Campbell left Cambridge and published in *Forum* magazine, is not the stuff of family viewing. The plot sees the frisky young Campbell gadding around Europe seducing German hausfraus in his Argyll tartan ("I raised my kilt ... good sense was dashed ...") I will save everyone's blushes from there on. "It will make a gripping film," trills Channel 4. For once, dear Alastair was "too busy" to comment.

● *THE Church of England has learnt not to cross the formidable Ann Taylor. A vicar sent the Leader of the House a furious letter complaining about the lack of MPs gracing the Chamber. The stern reply, inquiring whether the vicar spent all week in the pulpit addressing an empty church, ended the correspondence.*

THE TIMES DIARY

Dawn call

I MUST commend the Government on its wise choice of Dawn Primarolo to respond to a robust challenge from Tory David Heathcoat-Amory about tax avoidance



"It seems that Titanic went down very well"

and off-shore trusts tomorrow. For the Treasury's financial secretary knows all about not paying tax. In 1991 she was hauled before magistrates for non-payment of poll tax.

Eventually, this poll tax rebel coughed up but not before claiming "the basic human right to peaceable dissent from laws contrary to your fundamental belief". Awkwardly, the only other ministers who could have been for the Government were Helen Liddell, a former Maxwell flunky, or our old friend Geoffrey Robinson.

● *The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, is investigating complaints from Lord Bruce of Donnington that the gum on House of Lords envelopes is insufficiently adhesive. "You ask a very sticky question. I shall certainly see whether I can seal the matter."*

JASPER GERARD



TWENTY readers of *The Times* yesterday joined the hundreds of people who will be running in this year's Flora London Marathon to raise money for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. None of the newspaper's team will find the exertion more special than Paul Burrell, who was the Princess's butler for ten years. Although he has never run before, he is determined to salute her memory in a very personal, silent tribute.

DOWNING STREET FROST

Blair is boss and Brown should not forget it

The temperature between Tony Blair and his Chancellor has a long way to fall before we see the *froideur* which once developed between *Baroness Thatcher and Lord* Lawson. There is no doubt, however, that a touch of January frost has settled in Downing Street — a change of political *weather which could have important* impacts on policy as the year rolls on.

The prime cause of the cooling has been the publication of a biography of Mr Brown by *Paul Routledge which was serialised last* week in *The Times*. The Chancellor's co-operation, and his aides' collaboration, lent the book great authority. Mr Routledge revealed, *with the help of the Chancellor's* ally, the Chief Whip, Nick Brown, the "hurt" which the Chancellor felt when Mr Blair overtook him in the succession to John Smith. *Mr Brown's revisiting of the events* in the 1994 Labour leadership election was a rare, and unfortunate, example of the victim returning to the scene of the crime.

The book was not, however, the only cause of trouble. Suspicions of continuing rivalry have long been encouraged by the behaviour of both men's lieutenants. This latest ploy by *the Brown camp stung those closest to Mr* Blair into a caustic slapdown of the Chancellor, one which betrays the Prime Minister's real and understandable irrita*tion at his Chancellor and friend.*

A fissure between the two most important men in the Government has the potential to destabilise any administration. This one *need be no exception. Mr Blair is an* exceptionally powerful Prime Minister. But he has ceded large areas of influence to a Chancellor who has a different sense from *his own both of political risk and diplomatic* necessity. If Number 10 were to pay less heed to Number 11, government policies, from monetary union to welfare reform, could be significantly different.

The differences would be mostly improvements. This Government depends most of all on Mr Blair maintaining his authority as the leader in whom the voters invested trust. *From the decision to abandon Clause Four,* through the resolution not to increase income tax rates to the adoption of less enthusiastic stance on Europe, the road to *Labour's landslide followed a course set by* Mr Blair. There has been loose talk from Mr Brown's supporters, reflected in his biography, that he is "Prime Minister" to Mr *Blair's "President". The voters decided,* emphatically, who should be Prime Minister last May and Mr Brown would be wise to respect their verdict.

There is no question of Mr Brown being shifted from the Treasury in the short term — and no current rival in the Cabinet for his position as the Prime Minister's closest adviser. *But the longer term is not as clear as* it was. Although Mr Brown, who is genuinely agitated by the problems of poverty and wasted talent, has been in the *vanguard of plans to reform the welfare* state, the new Cabinet Committee, with Mr Blair in the chair and John Prescott deputising, suggests a smaller role in future. *Those who suggested an "affluence test" for* the middle classes may find their thought judged newly unthinkable.

It is too early to say whether this is a *reverse for radicalism or a victory for* realism. The Prime Minister is as determined as any member of the Government to overhaul the welfare state but more sensitive *than most to the coalition of support which* needs to be nurtured if reform is not to founder. On European issues too, a less assertive Mr Brown will make for a more *realistic Government. A chastened Chan*cellor still has an important part to play. But, if he is to make the most of his office, he must remember that the author of his recent misfortunes is not Mr Routledge but himself.

TO BAGHDAD, AGAIN

Saddam has no right to dictate to the United Nations

Saddam Hussein's latest pretext for barring the work of Unscom, the UN arms inspec*torate, is wholly and evidently spurious.* Scott Ritter, the former US marine heading the team that was prevented last week from continuing its work, has conducted more *than 30 inspections in Iraq since 1991: only* now is Iraq objecting to his presence. The more Saddam turns the spotlight on the composition of the UN teams, the more he calculates that the world will forget that he has no rights in the matter. Once outsiders start arguing whether there is merit in the particular charge laid by Iraq, he wins another round in the running battle between a dictator's will and international law.

Plausibility has never mattered much to Saddam; but he now appears confident that he can dispense with such petty considerations altogether. This is because, whatever Iraq's provocations, America and Britain are up against a Security Council majority determined not so much to play by the rules as to use the law against the law. Time was when the dispatch of military reinforcements to the Gulf made headlines because they were expected to be used: now the expectation is that once they are battle-ready, Saddam will give just enough ground *to harden political objections to their use.*

The added difficulty is that there are practical as well as political obstacles to military strikes. Unscom's work in the past *six years underlines how indispensable* ground inspections are. Despite persistent Iraqi deception and obstruction, Unscom has uncovered and disabled vastly more *material than was destroyed during the Gulf* War. It has located equipment capable of producing bacteria and viruses in such innocuous locations as vegetable oil factories *and dairies. On the ground, anthrax stocks* can be safely destroyed; bombing, even if accurate, would release spores into the atmosphere. These teams deserve the Nobel *Peace Prize. But much remains undetected.* The only way to be certain that Iraq cannot resume production of chemical and biological weapons, in particular, is comprehensive, intrusive, continuing inspection.

But this work requires a minimum of Iraqi co-operation. This Iraq has withheld for months now, and Saddam has got away with refusing to back down unconditionally. Two months ago, the issue was not just Unscom's presence in Iraq, but its right of unimpeded access to every yard of Iraqi territory. Saddam gave way on the first point: but the "presidential sites" have remained off-limits. These cover a huge acreage, more than sufficient for hiding a substantial weapons programme.

Once again, Richard Butler, the chief UN weapons inspector, has gone to Baghdad to insist that Saddam has no alternative but complete co-operation, anywhere in Iraq and with any expert that the UN sees fit to appoint. This time, there must be no blurred edges at the end of these talks.

Ground inspections must still be the preferred route to the objective, which is to rid the world of the acute danger presented by *Iraq's illegal weaponry. But unless Mr* Butler can report back that this time, the inspectors will definitely be able to do their work properly, sustained military strikes *must be actively revived as an option.* Second-best they may be, and unpopular they will certainly be; but a neutered Unscom presence would be worse still — *ineffective in itself, and a mockery of inter*national law. Saddam appears to believe that Iraq cannot be compelled to abide by its legal obligations. Because force is the only *language he speaks, force may have to be* used until he understands.

THE PRICE OF POWER

The blame for Zimbabwe's troubles lies squarely with Mugabe

Teargas is becoming a regular feature of political life in Zimbabwe. In December the protests in Harare were directed at an unpopular tax package, imposed by President Mugabe despite the refusal of Parliament to endorse it. On that occasion, the police were deployed with excessive force against largely peaceful demonstators but the controversial measures themselves were swiftly withdrawn. That pattern appears to have been repeated, this time over a steep rise in maize prices. The authorities hit hard but then announced that it would impose price controls.

The Government may have bought itself a respite but at the price of more trouble later. The maize price increase was the consequence of continued economic crisis. The value of the Zimbabwean dollar has almost halved in eight weeks and the stock market has slumped. Unemployment — which has long been in excess of 30 per cent — will increase further. If it is impossible for commodity producers to pass on their vastly increased costs to consumers, as now looks the case, then the only outcome can be *enhanced economic collapse, additional* unemployment and social upheaval.

The Mugabe Government is entirely responsible for this sorry state of affairs. It made a *dire situation desperate when it* announced in November that it would confiscate 1,500 white-owned farms. The prospect triggered a collapse in confidence at home and abroad. Despite that, Mr Mugabe's supporters have stuck to the same discredited arguments. Chen Chimutengwende, Zimbabwe's Minister for Information, yesterday accused unnamed white businessmen of deliberately orchestrating commodity price rises to inspire internal unrest — an incredible charge.

Such rhetoric would suggest that Mr Mugabe has not abandoned his plans for the compulsory acquisition of farmland, despite agreements reached with the European Union and World Bank last week in which the Government pledged to respect constitutional guarantees on property ownership and the right to fair and full compensation. Those international institutions would be well advised to watch Mr Mugabe closely. The IMF abandoned the country because promises made for loans were not met. Britain must ensure that EU resources do not subsidise mass seizures.

Zimbabwe will not fare better without fundamental reform. Government spending is excessive; privatisation has made minimal *progress. All is made much worse by wide*spread corruption. Few, even in Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party, are fooled by the constant attempts to pin the blame on white farmers. Economic adjustment has been deferred for so long that it is bound to be painful. Present policies are even less attractive.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Injustices perceived in welfare and pensions proposals

From Mrs Sarah E. Birkin

Sir, When I married in 1969 I was asked by my employer whether I wished to continue to pay a full National Insurance contribution or whether I wished henceforth to pay the cheaper married woman's contribution.

When I asked about the relative merits of the two, I was told that the most important advantage accruing from payment of the full contribution was that I should at 60 receive the same pension as a single person, rather than that my husband only should be paid the pension due to a married couple, a sum considerably less than twice the single person's pension.

If the Government decides that my employment pension (it is not huge, I was a schoolteacher for 25 years) disbars me from receiving a state pension, will they refund to me the National Insurance overpayments, backdated to 1969?

Yours faithfully,
SARAH E. BIRKIN,
Soay, Bentlea Road,
Gisburn, nr Clitheroe,
Lancashire BB7 4EX.
January 19.

From Ms Paula Carter

Sir, I love my husband very much, but, for the first time, find myself contemplating divorce after reading your report "Wives could lose tax independence" (January 15).

We married five years ago, after a considerable period of cohabitation and the arrival of two children. I have kept my maiden name, my bank account and — extremely important to me — my mental and financial independence. The idea of being united with my husband for taxation purposes is abhorrent. While I receive child benefit I neither need it, as I have a well paid job, nor do I particularly want it. Indeed, had I been given the opportunity to turn it down when my children were born, I would have done so.

I very much support the Government's intention to target child benefit and other welfare to the more needy, but am very alarmed that combined taxation seems to be a necessary step. Given that the majority of the workforce are now women, the Government risks alienating a significant proportion of the population if it reintroduces joint taxation.

Yours faithfully,
PAULA CARTER,
22 Copperfields,
Kemsing, Kent TN15 6QG.
January 15.

From the Executive Director of the Association of Retired and Persons over 50

Sir, Like many of the other 120,000 members of this organisation I left school at the age of 14, devoted untold numbers of hours to the drudgery of evening classes to make up lost ground, worked without a break for 50 years and saved prudently to provide a relatively comfortable lifestyle in my later years.

When, in due course, my state pension is taken into account there is a possibility that I shall be subject to the newly-invented "affluence test" or forced into the ranks of the "undeserving poor" and penalised accordingly.

It is impossible to overlook the irony in the situation which is currently developing. Redistribution of wealth was a first principle of the last Labour Government, alongside a rejection of means testing on both moral and administrative grounds. The modest redistribution which subsequently occurred, principally through home ownership, created a large group of "better off" older people who now increasingly, and with some justification, consider themselves to be under attack.

What is the point of any future generation raising itself out of poverty if the only reward is the stigma of "undeserved" affluence?

Yours faithfully,
DON W. STEEL,
Executive Director,
Association of Retired and
Persons Over 50,
Greencoat House,
Francis Street, SW1P 1DZ.
January 15.

From Mr R. A. Harrison

Sir, There is to be an attack on maternity benefit (report and leading article, January 12). The woman on £1 million a year can have a benefit of £18,000 a week and, according to Harriet Harman, "that can't be right". Well it can be right. The benefit is to provide an income while the lady cannot earn. She will have commitments commensurate with that income; is *she to fund her maternity out of* savings?

The impression is given that only "the rich" will be targeted. In fact, as we are now all too well aware, for any worthwhile saving to be achieved the "affluence test" will have to affect people on quite modest incomes, ie, nearly everybody.

Despite the Prime Minister's assurance (report, "Pensions safe with us, says Blair", January 16), it seems that the state pension may be allowed to *wither away as retirement income* gets progressively greater. Those who have larger retirement incomes, which they have funded out of their salaries whilst working, will also have contributed most of the National Insurance funding. Why is it right now to deprive them of the meagre benefit when it will be paid to the feckless or *to the lifetime unemployed, who have* contributed little or nothing to the fund?

The Government is presumably leaking its intentions to condition us before the hit. It ought to remember that nearly everyone will get to pension age and will expect to get that for which they have paid.

The real answer is to target the scroungers and to have higher and progressive top rates of tax, the only way to ensure that the richest pay the *most.*

Yours faithfully,
R. A. HARRISON,
3 Prior Croft Close,
Camberley, Surrey GU15 1DE.
January 17.

From Mr Steve Tilston

Sir, Whilst not wishing to detract from Liz Buttle's position as "the oldest woman to give birth in Britain" (report, January 16), wouldn't it be more ap*propriate, in the light of current preoc*cupations, to welcome her new status as the first woman to qualify for child benefit and the state pension at the same time? How does she view any impending changes, I wonder.

Yours faithfully,
STEVE TILSTON,
37 Bennett Park, Blackheath SE3 9RA.
tilston@ibm.net
January 16.

Oxford's policy on honorary degrees

From the Vice-Chancellor of the University of London

Sir, Your criticism of the University of Oxford in the matter of an honorary degree for the Prime Minister ("Dishonour by degrees", leading article, *January 19) is as unfair as it is* intemperate.

Oxford is not alone in having a policy that excludes active politicians from consideration. This university has a similar policy — and unlike Oxford extends it to overseas politicians — introduced in the light of unhappy experiences at a number of universities here and abroad.

Awarding honorary degrees should be a focus for a university's united celebration of high achievement and notable contribution, not an opportunity for political debate leading to internal divisions and strife. In any case, an honorary degree should be awarded, not for attaining high office, but for distinction in that office, which can be assessed only much later.

Moreover, for Oxford to have awarded a degree to the Prime Minis*ter at this particular time of fierce* debate over college and top-up fees would have invited severe censure. It would have been construed by many, however inaccurately, as a crude attempt to influence the Prime Minister's thinking; and it would have placed the Prime Minister himself in an invidious position. To refuse the *award would be seen as ungracious* and a rebuff to his own university: to accept would compromise his position on outstanding policy issues.

Lastly, you take the university to task even for considering the matter in view of its existing policy. This is unfounded for two reasons. First, in universities it is simply not possible to ensure even if one wished to, that a particular matter is not raised for consideration. Secondly, it is a principle of sound administration that *particular cases be considered on* their merits, notwithstanding the existence of a particular policy.

Yours faithfully,
GRAHAM ZELLICK,
University of London,
Senate House, WC1E 7HU.
January 19.

Ulster peace process

From Lord Kilbracken

Sir, In your lead story of January 13 you report that the "bold new settlement" proposed by the British and Irish Governments, offering (in the document's own words) "balanced constitutional change", would include Dublin dropping its territorial claim to Northern Ireland.

This is presumably a reference to *the modest claim set forth in Articles 2* and 3 of the Irish Constitution. It should therefore be remembered that any proposed constitutional amend*ment requires a referendum, and that* voters in the Republic have often been extremely unpredictable. Accordingly it is impossible for Dublin to give any positive undertaking on this matter.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN KILBRACKEN,
House of Lords.
January 13.

From Mr Andrew H. McLuskey

Sir, When the history of the Northern Ireland peace process comes to be written the name of Mo Mowlam will surely be accorded a place of high honour. By taking real political risks she has breathed new life into negotiations which seemed on the verge of collapse.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW H. McLUSKEY,
34 Sykes Drive, Staines TW18 1TA.
January 15.

From Mr Alan C. Millar

Sir, According to the late Scottish historian and owner of Canna, John Lorne Campbell, the Council of the Isles, based administratively on Islay, last met in 1543 at Knockfergus (now Carrickfergus, in County Antrim).

How ironic if a reconstituted Lordship of the Isles were to become again, in Dean Donald Munro's words, the symbol of "great peace and welth in the Iles throw the ministration of Justice".

Yours faithfully,
ALAN C. MILLAR,
Tigharra, Kames,
Tighnabruaich, Argyll PA21 2AG.
January 13.

Early bird

From Mr Ray Smith

Sir, Commodore Geoffrey Edwardes (letter, January 15) notes the early Christmas advertisement for "The 'Dickie' Bird Character Jug". Perhaps this is a case of getting in quickly to avoid a runout?

Yours sincerely,
RAY SMITH,
Manor Park, Sychdyn,
Nr Mold, Flintshire CH7 6EQ.
January 15.

Letters that are intended for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.
e-mail to: *letters@the-times.co.uk*

Sunday schools

From Mr Martin J. Lambourne

Sir, Ruth Gledhill's article (January 10) was correct to indicate that the traditional Sunday school is in crisis, but most family services on Sundays allow the whole church community to celebrate its faith together. God forbid that we resort to keeping children amused and out of sight while adults worship in peace.

The National Christian Education Council (NCEC) is addressing the needs of children not only in a church context, but also in the home, the *school and the local community.*

A great deal of the education now takes place midweek in activity clubs, youth and house groups. Many of us are not worried about the demise of Sunday school but do want the Church to respond imaginatively and appropriately to children where they are, day by day, and not only Sundays *and in church.*

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN J. LAMBOURNE
(Director, Resource Development),
NCEC,
1020 Bristol Road,
Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB.

From the Chief Executive of Scripture Union

Sir, I am not as pessimistic as Ruth Gledhill. This year Scripture Union celebrated 50 years of providing a syllabus and teaching materials for Sunday schools and those years have seen a steady growth in demand.

Some 400,000 children use our materials each week. Every year we run a residential course for Sunday school teachers; 230 came last year and we have just appointed someone to run a programme of training seminars.

Nor are we the only agency publish*ing such materials. The Church* Pastoral Aid Society offers a similar service to Anglican Churches and many of the new Churches produce their own materials. The United Reformed Church has its own programme.

Is the glass half full or half empty?

Yours sincerely
PETER KIMBER,
Chief Executive, Scripture Union,
207-209 Queensway,
Bletchley, Milton Keynes,
Buckinghamshire MK2 2EB.
peterk@scriptureunion.org.uk
January 12.

Millennium matters

From Dr Colin B. Brown

Sir, The end of the second and the beginning of the third millennium is fundamentally a Christian ecclesiastical turning point of a deeply religious nature (leading article, January 13; letter, January 14). In this the non-secular state has no role or responsibility to which it should feel expected or required to respond.

It is the myriad of Christian Churches which must contribute through their followers to the communal reflection of the past 2,000 *years since the momentous birth of* Jesus Christ, and to concentrate their efforts on the improvement of man's spiritual development in the next thousand years.

How they wish to do this is their affair, not the State's.

Yours sincerely,
COLIN B. BROWN,
Platts Farm, Ughill,
Bradfield, Sheffield S6 6HU.
January 19.

From Mr John Harris

Sir, Is it not a sobering and rather awful thought that our transitory Millennium Dome and Experience, costed at approximately £750 million, may well exceed the total cost of the new vast — and permanent — J. Paul Getty Center complex in Los Angeles?

Yours sincerely,
JOHN HARRIS,
16 Limerston Street, SW10 0HH.
January 13.

London referendum

From Lord Graham of Edmonton

Sir, The Opposition Chief Whip in the Lords, Lord Strathclyde (letter, January 16) does his best to cover his party's embarrassment over the London referendum Bill. Ever since the Opposition tabled and won a wrecking amendment to the Bill, they have *tried to place the responsibility for this* at everyone's door but their own.

The amendment is not a minor one as Lord Strathclyde tries to imply. By *six votes it destroys the timetable for a* referendum on a Greater London authority, expected on May 7. Most of the crossbenchers voting, hereditary and life peers, were against it.

The Conservatives' discomfort is increased by the fact that on such a democratic issue they won with the support of their hereditary peers. On the votes of life peers alone the Government would have won by 38.

Lord Strathclyde complains that 52 Labour peers failed to vote. This is misleading, and personally unfair. *Factors such as serious illness, infirm*ity or family sickness mean that about half of that number cannot be expected to attend regularly, if at all. Others had good reasons for absence, including official business. When one considers that 40 Labour peers are aged 75 or over, 17 of whom did not vote, and that the average age is 67, their contribution takes on a new light.

The Conservatives have 495 peers — more than three times our total. Fewer than a quarter of them voted, yet they more than outnumbered two thirds of ours. Where were the other 379? Lord Strathclyde makes the argument for House of Lords reform much more cogently than I could.

Yours sincerely,
GRAHAM
(Chair, Labour Peers' Group),
House of Lords.
January 16.

Diana's garden

From Mr Kenneth Stern

Sir, The Royal Parks Agency was created to preserve the royal parks as areas of tranquillity in a busy city for the benefit of residents and visitors. By promoting a memorial garden to Princess Diana in Kensington Gardens (letters, January 10; report, January 13) the agency will achieve the exact opposite.

If the chief executive cannot understand this, he should make way for someone who can.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH STERN,
555 Park West,
Edgware Road, W2 2RA.
January 13.

From Mr M. A. Murray-Pearce

Sir, Like your correspondents of January 10, I believe that the proposed site for a garden of remembrance for Diana, Princess of Wales is not large enough to cope with the many thousands of visitors expected. During the tourist season it is likely to be more crowded than Oxford Street and it will lack the aura and tranquillity appropriate to such a garden.

Huge numbers are likely to want to place flowers on anniversaries of the Princess's death. Should not display space be provided for this purpose, or memorial fund donations solicited in their place; and could not the adjoining Flower Walk be embraced within the garden?

Yours etc,
M. A. MURRAY-PEARCE,
130 Wigmore Street, W1H 0AT.
January 10.

From Mr Robert M. Pickering

Sir, From my observation over the last couple of months, current visitors to *Kensington Palace largely consist of* groups of foreign tourists whose approach is hardly reverential but involves taking snapshots of each other grinning before the palace gates. It is these people who would be the beneficiaries of the current plan, greatly at the expense of the many thousands of ordinary London resi*dents for whom Kensington Gardens* is an every-day amenity.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT PICKERING,
31 Argyll Road, Kensington, W8 7DA.
January 11.

Plastic padding

From Mr Kevin Stagg

Sir, I am sure that Dr John Burscough's accumulation of many "loyalty" cards from various stores (letter, January 9) does imply greater loyalty, not less.

In the same way, I maintain that my conduct in harbour when I was a young, single midshipman in the Royal Australian Navy demonstrated a man's typically excessive capacity for fidelity.

Yours sincerely
KEVIN STAGG,
11 The Brow, Widley,
Waterlooville, Hampshire PO7 5BY.
kstagg@fathmltd.demon.co.uk
January 10.

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هكذا من الأصل

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
January 19: The Duke of York, Patron, Round Square, this morning attended a Council Meeting at Hellenic School, Pont Street, London SW1.
KENSINGTON PALACE
January 19: The Duchess of Gloucester, President, this afternoon visited the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1.
Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Iris Fund, later received Mr Allan Hughes (Chairman) and Mr Robert Nicolle (Treasurer) upon relinquishing their appointments.

Today's royal engagement

Princess Margaret, as Honorary President, the British Museum Development Trust, will attend a meeting of the council at the Museum, at 11.15.

King's College, Cambridge

Choristership auditions for King's College Choir, Cambridge will be held on January 31. Details are available from 01223 331224.

The Valentine Ball

The Valentine Ball will be held for 3,000 guests in the Café Royal on Friday, February 13. Invitations and £39 tickets from 0171-931 8849.

Three Faiths Forum

Mr René-Samuel Sirat, Chief Rabbi of the Central Consistory of France and former Chief Rabbi of France, was the speaker at the Interfaith Centre of the Sternberg Centre for Judaism.

Dinner

Cardiff Business Club
The President of Cardiff Business Club, Sir Idwal Pugh, the Lord-Lieutenant for South Glamorgan, Captain N. Lloyd Edwards, the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, Councillor Max Phillips, and the High Sheriff of South Glamorgan, Mr J.W. Phillips, were present at a dinner held by the Club at the Park Hotel, Cardiff last night. The guest speaker was Dame Sheila Masters, Partner, KPMG, Non-Executive Director, Bank of England. Mrs Sue Camper, Agent for Wales, Bank of England, presided.

Memorial service

Mr Robert Noel Linsley
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Robert Noel Linsley, former secretary of the Carlton Club, was held yesterday at St George's, Hanover Square.
Prebendary W.M Atkins officiated. Sir Michael Latham, Deputy Chairman of the Carlton Club, read the lesson and Lord Wakeham, Chairman of the Carlton Club, gave an address. Members of the family, friends, members of the club, and past and present colleagues attended.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Dr Robert Anderson, Director of the British Museum, was the guest speaker at the opening meeting of the winter session of the discussion circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's.
Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell presided.

Reception

Lord Mayor of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were the hosts at a reception held last night at Westminster City Hall in honour of the emergency services.
Representatives of the Metropolitan Police, the London Fire Brigade, the London Fire and Civil Defence Authority, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster Health Authority, St Mary's Hospital, the Women's Transport Services (FANY), the London Ambulance Service, St John Ambulance, the British Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the WRVS, City Councillors and Chief Officers and staff of Westminster were present.



Six of Britain's most endangered animals, plants and birds are featured on a special set of stamps that goes on sale today. The common dormouse, lady's slipper orchid, song thrush, shining ram's-horn snail, mole cricket and devil's bolete fungus are all under threat from changes in land use, the loss of woodland and pollution

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Frederick Louis, Prince of Wales, Hanover, 1707; John Jervis, Earl of St Vincent, Admiral of the Fleet, Stone, Staffordshire, 1735; Wolfe Tone, Irish nationalist, Dublin, 1763; André-Marie Ampère, physicist, Lyons, 1775; Joy Adamson, naturalist and writer, Austria, 1910; Roy Plomley, creator of "Desert Island Discs", Kingston-upon-Thames, 1914.

DEATHS: David Garrick, actor-manager, London, 1779; John Howard, penal reformer, Kherson, the Crimea, 1790; Sir John Soane, architect, London, 1837; Jean François Millet, painter, Barbizon, 1875; R.D. Blackmore, novelist, Teddington, Middlesex, 1900; John Ruskin, critic and writer, Coniston, Cumbria, 1900; King George V, reigned 1910-36, Sandringham, 1936; Edmund Blunden, poet and critic, Long Melford, Suffolk, 1974; Johnny Weissmuller, Olympic swimming champion and actor, Florida, 1984.

The first assembly of The Commons, 1265.

Hong Kong was ceded to Britain from China, 1841.

The Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic expedition led by Sir Vivian Fuchs reached the South Pole, 1958.

Legal appointment

Mr David William Steel, QC, to be a Justice of the High Court, assigned to the Queen's Bench Division.

Solicitor buys island that changes with the tide

BY BILL HOFFMANN

A HAUNTED island that changes size twice a day and is inhabited only by birds and ghosts has been sold to a solicitor who says her love of nature overruled her business sense.

Sheila Leslie paid £65,000 for picturesque Samphire Island, which lies in an estuary of the River Blackwater, off West Mersea, near Colchester, Essex.

In spite of its surprisingly low cost in a county with plenty of £1 million residences on small parcels of land, it cannot be considered a good investment. The historic island — measuring 70 acres in low tide, 36 acres in high — comes with an impressive title, but little else.

It is nearly impossible to build on, hard to get to and is little more than a thickly wooded sanctuary for wild birds and the restless spirits of excise men who were murdered there by pirates 300 years ago.

"It's certainly not a financial investment. This is something that is more in my heart than in my head," Miss Leslie, 66, said. "It's only accessible by boat and one has to be ferried across. I haven't even set foot on it yet."

With the purchase, Miss Leslie now becomes Lord of the Manor of Great Wigborough and Salcut cum Virley, an ancient title first granted by Henry VIII in the 16th century to Thomas Cromwell, his secretary of state. Samphire Island was a popular haunt in the 17th and 18th centuries for smugglers and pirates, who used its inlets to store stolen liquor, jewels and other contraband. When a group of excise men stumbled upon the smugglers, they were run through and buried in the mud. Legend says their ghosts still roam the island.

References to Samphire Island go back to the Norman Conquest and it is mentioned in the Domesday Book.

Miss Leslie, a trademark and patent lawyer for 43 years, said: "I've always wanted to own an interesting part of Essex and I'm interested in wildlife. It's not that I want to do anything with it except keep it as it is. I know half of it is submerged at high tide. I wonder with global warming whether more of it will be submerged in due course and I will just be left with the title?

"I think there are some residual rights over fishing and minerals but that is not why I bought it. There might be a right to hold a market but I can't see any car boot sales over there."

The island does have an ample supply of the edible sea asparagus Samphire, after which it was named, "but I don't think I will be going across to harvest it," she added.

The previous owners were the German-based firm of Vladi Private Islands. Pedro Arez, the manager, said: "It's a collector's item, just a beautiful piece of land. Islands always interest people because they offer something special. Henry VIII granted the original title which is still in the English archives so the new buyer can get a copy."

Forthcoming marriages

Mr T.R. Bruce Jones and Miss M.D. Carter
The engagement is announced between Tom, son of Mr Tom Bruce Jones, of Glasgow, and Mrs Rosemary Bruce Jones, of Edinburgh, and Melissa, daughter of Mr Michael Carter, of Brimstage, Cheshire, and Mrs Mags Jones, of Shrewsbury.

Mr N.D. Mitchell and Miss N. Tetzner
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the Dean of Windsor and the late Mary Mitchell, and Nicole, daughter of Mrs Patricia Tetzner, of Largs, Scotland, and Mr James Tetzner, of Collingwood, Ontario, Canada.

Mr M.J.D. O'Conor and Miss R.M. D'Alessandro
The engagement is announced between Mark, third son of Mr and Mrs Brian O'Conor, of Guildford, Surrey, and Rosalia, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Gaetano D'Alessandro, of Huelva, Spain.

Captain C.A.H. Philp and Miss H. French
The engagement is announced between Captain Christopher Philp, Coldstream Guards, son of Mr J. Philp, of Hawkley, Hampshire, and Mrs W. Lindemann, of Somerset West, South Africa, and Hayley, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. French, of Harare, Zimbabwe.

Captain J.C.J. Redman and Miss C.E. Hatton
The engagement is announced between Christian, son of Mr and Mrs John Redman, of St Margarets Bay, Kent, and Claire, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Victor Hatton, of Gussage St Michael, Dorset.

Mr N.J.R. Hinds and Miss C.M. Gray
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Major and Mrs Richard Hinds, of Sevenoaks, Kent, and Catherine, second daughter of Mr and Mrs David Gray, of Nairobi, Kenya.

The Rev H.N.L. Latham and Miss T.E. Justice
The engagement is announced between Harry, second son of Mr and Mrs Robert Latham, of Reigate, Surrey, and Tracy, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Justice, also of Reigate, Surrey.

Mr E.A.K. Ritchie and Miss S. Honami
The engagement is announced between Edward, son of Mr and Mrs Andrew Ritchie, of Winslade, Hampshire, and Saori, daughter of Mr and Mrs Yoshio Honami, of Otaku, Tokyo.

Lieutenant S.C. Seymour, QDG, and Miss A.E. Richards
The engagement is announced between Stuart, younger son of Mrs L. Seymour, of Chelsea, London, and Abigail, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R.B. Richards, of Bath.

Mr D. Wallace and Miss C. Jones
The engagement is announced between Douglas, son of Mr and Mrs J.D. Wallace, of Limbury, Luton, and Caroline, elder daughter of the late Dr E.V. Jones and of Dr Jillian Jones, of Wingfield, Bedfordshire.

Marriage

Mr P. Ivey and Miss S.H.E. Hill
The marriage took place on January 10, 1998, at Mapledurham, of Mr Peter Ivey to Miss Sally Helen Elizabeth Hill.

Latest wills

Ralph Walford **Selby**, diplomat, of Hayling Island, Hampshire, left estate valued at £500,405 net.

Alan Herbert **Morris**, of Taunton, Somerset, left estate valued at £919,696 net.

Elizabeth Vera **Johnson**, of London SW7, left estate valued at £589,785 net.
She left shares in her estate to the League of Friends of Middlesex Hospital, St John Ambulance, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, the Lytton Strachey Trust and the Salvation Army.

Alexander **Kaye**, of London NW11, left estate valued at £621,039 net.

John Kennedy **Lindsay**, of Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, Northern Ireland, left estate valued at £769,690 net.
He left his residuary estate to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland.

Arthur Desmond **Mills**, of Deeping, Peterborough, left estate valued at £721,169 net.

Lenke **Molnar**, of London NW6, left estate valued at £697,751 net.

Walter John Norman **Oswald**, of Emsworth, Hampshire, left estate valued at £671,100 net.
He left £5,000 to St Luke's Hospital for the Clergy and to the Church of England pensions Board; £3,000 to the Alzheimer's Disease Society.

Joan Alice **Parsons**, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, left estate valued at £819,698 net.

Emma **Pemberton**, of Nantwich, Cheshire, left estate valued at £579,734 net.

Marian Ashley **Pope**, of Poole, Dorset, left estate valued at £556,216 net.

Richard Philip **Rankin**, of Holywell, Flintshire, left estate valued at £676,805 net.

Frederick **Roberts**, of Salcombe, South Devon, left estate valued at £933,501 net.

William Richard **Roberts**, of Trawsfynydd, Gwynedd, left estate valued at £501,566 net.

Gertrude **Shove**, of Dunsford, Devon, left estate valued at £704,201 net.
She left £2,000 to Dunsford Village Hall and to Dunsford Church; £1,000 each to Acorn Community Project, RNLI and the medical practice, Cheriton Bishop, Exeter.

Vera Maud **Stevewright**, of Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, left estate valued at £659,832 net.

Helen Dorothea **Tetley**, of Leeds, left estate valued at £562,402 net.

Michael Barwick **Thompson**, of Ashbourne, Derbyshire, left estate valued at £848,784 net.

Thomas Frederick **Vanderpump**, of Reading, Berkshire, left estate valued at £886,300 net.
He left £2,000 to the Dolphin Dolphin Society.

Mr Leonard John **Walters**, of Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, left estate valued at £821,857 net.
He left £10,000 each to his niece Eleanor Walters, his aunt Vera Martin, his niece, Ann Yuffle, his servant Andrew Akakpo, and his sister-in-law Wendy Walters.

Albert Harold **Ward**, of London W3, left estate valued at £853,543 net.

Leslie Walter **Wood**, of Highgate, London, left estate valued at £627,245 net.
He left a share in his estate to St Joseph's Hospice, London E8.

Birthdays today

Dr Buzz Aldrin, former astronaut, 68; Mr Aubrey Bailey, conservation architect, 86; Mr Tom Baker, actor, 62; Lord Justice Chadwick, 57; Air Marshal Sir David Cousins, 56; Mr Derek Dougan, former football manager and player, 60; the Very Rev D.L. Edwards, former Provost of Southwark Cathedral, 69; Lord Ewing of Kirkford, 67; Sir David Fell, civil servant 55; the Hon Sir Henry Fisher, former President, Wolfson College, Oxford, 80; Miss Liza Goddard, actress, 48; Lord Hanson, 76; the Marquess of Headfort, 66; Major Dick Hern, former racehorse trainer, 77; Mr J.K. Ind, former Headmaster, Dover College, 63; Air Vice-Marshal the Ven B.H. Lucas, former Chaplain-in-Chief, RAF, 58; Mr David Lynch, film producer, 52; Commandant Vonla McBride, former director, WRNS, 77.

Mr Christopher Martin-Jenkins, cricket commentator, 53; Mr Max Morrison, Governor, Parkhurst prison, 54; Dr Jessica Rawson, FBA, Warden, Merton College, Oxford, 55; Mr Natan Sharansky, Soviet dissident, 50; Professor N.C. Wickramasinghe, astronomer, 59; Mr John Witherow, Editor, The Sunday Times, 46.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

God has done wonderful things for you, and my people will never again be put to shame. You will know that I am present in Israel, that I and no other am the Lord your God. Joel 2 : 26

BIRTHS

ACHROTH - On January 16th at The Portland Hospital to Camilla and Mark, a son, a brother for Sacha and Scarlett.

BADGER - On January 17th at The Portland Hospital to Carol (Cunningham) and Kristian, a son, Erik Spencer.

CHATWIN - On January 15th, to Jo (née Edwards) and Robin, a daughter, Jemma Annabel.

CONWAY - On 5th January 1998 to Debbie (née Daly) and Edward, a son, Oliver Patrick Ethan, a brother for Luke.

CROSTHWAITE-EYRE - On January 15th to Rebecca (née Nelson) and Oliver, a son (James John), a brother for George.

DILLON - On January 12th at The Portland Hospital to Joanna (née Saville) and Fleure, a daughter Natalie Rivka.

GILSEY - On January 17, 1998 to Susan (née Olof) and Simon, a son (Jack Engels).

GLEAVE - On January 12th to Patricia and Robert, a son, Samuel Robert, a brother for Amy.

HUTCHINGS - On 31st December 1997 to Frances (née Holmes) and Marcus, a son, Edward Thomas Bramford.

KIRKBY-VALLELY - On January 18th 1998, at Castle Hill Hospital, East Yorkshire to Victoria and Gerard, a son, Charles Oliver, a brother for Georgina.

KITSON - On January 15th at The Portland Hospital to Janette and Peter, a daughter, Sabrina Olivia Alexandra, 6lb 4oz.

LODGE - On January 14th at The Portland Hospital to Deborah (née Murphy) and Stuart, a son, John Patrick.

MORRIS - On January 18th in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, to Nathalie and Huw, a son, Jack, a brother for Glen.

NAGHOFF - On January 15th at The Portland Hospital to Kate (née Gill) and Roger, a daughter, Robyn Lara, a sister for Zoe.

PARRIS - On December 28th 1997 to Stuart and Sarah, a beautiful boy, Hugh Charles Maitland, a brother for Thomas.

PITT - On 6th January 1998 to Jane (née Field), and Phil, a son Alexander Richard, a brother for Christopher.

ROTHMAN - On January 14th, to Lucy and James, a daughter Emily Francesca, a sister for Georgia and Isabella.

BIRTHS

SANDERS - Jonathan and Caroline (née Watson) announce the birth of Celia Talitha Rebecca Anne on Friday 16th January 1998 at Guy's Hospital, London.

SUMMUCKS - On January 5th to Lucinda and John, a daughter, Kitty, a sister for Isabel and Miranda.

WALKER - On January 10th, 1998, to Harriet (née Williams) and Jonathan, a son, Inigo Edward John, a brother for Isabella.

WARNER-HOUSEGO - On 16th December 1997, to Emma Housego and Robert Warner, a gorgeous son, Martin John Warner-Housego "Max". Deo Gratias.

WEBSTER - On January 14th, at the Borders Hospital, Melrose, to Cindy (née Tunnicliff) and David, a wee girl, Kirry, a sister for Tim.

WELSTEAD - On January 16th at The Simpson Memorial Maternity Pavilion, Edinburgh, to Anya (née Sweeney) and Justin, a beautiful baby boy, Jack Milo.

WILSON - On January 12th at The Portland Hospital to Hunza (née Khan) and Ian, a son, Oliver.

WOODS - On January 8th to Amanda (née Lloyd-Seed) and Nicholas, a son, Thomas Robert Hugh. Private Bag 0074, Gaborone, Botswana.

DEATHS

ALEXANDER - Claire (née Dicks-Mireaux). Suddenly and unexpectedly at home on Thursday 15th January 1998 aged 46. Dr Claire Dicks-Mireaux BA (Oxon), MRCP, FRCR, Consultant Radiologist, Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children, London. Beloved wife of Leslie and much loved mother of James, Helen and Sarah. Also greatly missed by her father, sister, brother, granddaughter and family in France. Funeral at All Saints Church, Rettendon, Essex (on A130 nine miles south of Chelmsford) at 11am on Saturday 24th January. Flowers welcome or donations in memory of Claire to GOS Hospital Children's Charity, 40-41 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3AJ. Enquiries to Funeral Directors, S Carter & Sons of Wickford - Tel: 01258 733108.

BRITWISTLE - David William Archer. Suddenly in London on 14th January, aged 71, much loved by his family & countless friends. Funeral at 11am Friday 23rd January at the Church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Ryhston Rd, SW6. Family flowers only, donations to the Mount Ward Assembly Trust, St. Thomas's Hospital, SE1 7EE. R.I.P.

BUTLER - On January 16th, peacefully at home, Peggy, beloved wife of the late Gordon, adored mother of Claudia, Susie and the late Anthony, Tom loving grandma of Katie, Maudie, William, Louise and Sarah, proud great grandma of George and Harry and magical mother-in-law of Jane, Elizabeth and Rodney. Cremation at Mortlake at 11.30am on Saturday 24th January. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Treasurer, St. Paul's Church, 64, Grove Park Road, Chiswick, W4 3SB.

GALAZKA - On 17 January 1998, Henry, beloved husband of the late Halina, father of George and Peter, and grandfather of Emily and Ben. Private cremation. Donations if desired to St. Christopher's Hospice, Lawrie Park Rd, London, SE26 6DZ

GOMERSALL - peacefully at home on 31st December, Elaine, aged 88 years. Funeral, today, Tuesday 20th January at Mortlake Crematorium at 2.00pm.

HARRISON - On Saturday January 17th 1998 in hospital after many years of illness very bravely borne, Sonia Mary of Bailey, Herts aged 72 years. Dearly loved mother of Nicholas, mother-in-law of Linda and daughter of the late Bobby and Peggy Hardman. Funeral Service on Friday January 23rd at 2pm at Bailey Parish Church followed by burial. Flowers please to Chapel of Rest, Market Hill, Royston or donations if preferred to The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, c/o S. Newling & Son, Funeral Directors, 2 Palace Gardens, Royston, Herts.

HATCH - David John son of the late George and Winifred. Died suddenly at home on January 13th 1998. Peaceful Service at Southampton Crematorium, East Chapel, on Monday January 26th at 11am. No flowers, but donations if desired to the R.N.L.B. c/o J. Lawrence & Sons, 17 St Denys Road, Portswood, Southampton SO17 2GN.

HUTCHINSON - On January 16th 1998, Sir Peter Hutchinson Bt., Rest dearly loved by Mary-Grace and Elspeth, Alison, Robert and Mark. Private funeral. Thanksgiving service later.

JAMES - On January 15th peacefully at The Princess Alice Hospice, Esher, Surrey, Kenneth Milford, the dearly beloved husband of Laura and devoted father of Sarah and David. Donations to The Princess Alice Hospice c/o F.W. Paine, 108 High Street, Esher, Surrey KT10 9QJ.

DURHAM - Professor Ansel Charles. Peacefully at home on January 18th. Dearly loved husband of Helen, father of Tim, Peter, Lucy and grandfather of Charlie, Honor and Eloise and son of Sir Kingsley Dunham FRS and Lady Dunham. Funeral at Hendon Parish Church at 2pm on Friday 23rd January. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Hallaton Parish Church or Lords Hospice c/o J. Stamp & Sons Funeral Directors 15 Kettering Road, Market Harborough LE16 8AH.

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MEADE - On 15th January 1998, peacefully at home, Peggy, beloved wife of the late Gordon, adored mother of Claudia, Susie and the late Anthony, Tom loving grandma of Katie, Maudie, William, Louise and Sarah, proud great grandma of George and Harry and magical mother-in-law of Jane, Elizabeth and Rodney. Cremation at Mortlake at 11.30am on Saturday 24th January. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Treasurer, St. Paul's Church, 64, Grove Park Road, Chiswick, W4 3SB.

MAYBURY - Charles William (Bill) Maybury on 16th January, aged 83. Beloved husband of Ruth, father and grandfather. Service at Hurstfield Church, Purpose Hatch, Meopham Road, Hadlow, Kent on Monday, 26th January at 11.30 am followed by cremation at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, please. Donations, if desired, to Hurstfield Church.

MIDDLETON - Harry died peacefully after a long illness on 17th January 1998, aged 74. Adored father and grandfather, beloved brother, husband and loyal friend to so many. Private cremation. Services of Thanksgiving will take place at St Saviour's, East Woodhay, Berkshire on Tuesday 27th January 1998 at 2.30pm and at St Andrew's, Botam, Northumberland on Thursday 29th January 1998 at 2.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations greatly received; please make cheques payable to Newbury and District Cancer Care Trust, c/o Charles Clore Macmillan Day Unit, Sandleford Hospital, Newtown Road, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 7EU.

MIDDLETON-SMITH - Marjorie May on January 18th 1998 at Manor Lodge Residential Home Exmouth. Loved wife of the late Leslie Middleton-Smith. All enquiries to Richard W. Gegg Funeral Directors 01395 222444.

PHIL - Reverend Basil Hoadley M.A. Peacefully on January 15th 1998, in Carmel, Lonely Vicar of Longsdon, Horton and Rushton Spencer. A much loved brother. Funeral service at St Chad's Church, Longsdon on Thursday January 22nd at 11am followed by a funeral service and Interment at Penyboistawr Church, Oswestry. Bishop on Friday January 23rd at 12 noon. Family flowers only, any donations will be divided between his previous churches, Penyboistawr church and the Stroke Association. Enquiries to John Garside & Son, High Street, Biddulph, Stoke on Trent. Tel: 01782 513210.

PHILLIMORE - Rachel Louisa (Née Kidston) peacefully at home on January 17th 1998, widow of Robert Phillimore, Mother of Christine, William, Clare, Prue and Harriet and beloved grandmother of 13. Funeral on Wednesday January 21 at 2.30pm at Wanstead Parish Church. Family flowers only.

POTTINGER - William George on January 15th aged 81 suddenly while playing lawn tennis with friends. Son of the late Revd. William and Mrs Janet Pottinger of Orkney, dearly loved husband of Margaret, father of Fiona and grandfather of Katherine, Francesca, Archie and Susana. Private funeral, no flowers please. Memorial service to be held at 11.30am on Thursday 29th January at The Holy Trinity Church, Balsham, Cambridgeshire.

RAYMOND-HAWKINS - MRS. Miss M (Ray). Died January 17th after a short illness aged 95. No funeral. Donations if desired to Baystede, Ringmer, East Sussex, BN8 5AJ

ROBINSON - John Armstrong. Diplomat. On January 16th. Husband of Marianne, father of Frances and Patrick, grandfather of Ella, Claire Mallett, Aurelia, Adrien-Mont Blanc 2, Neuchatel, Switzerland.

ROBSON - William Michael. Formerly of Hales Place, Tenterden, Kent, on 14th January, aged 86. Husband of Frances; father of Susan, David and John and stepfather of Alix, grandfather and great grandfather. Private funeral.

ROWLEY - William Berkeley, Brig. The Rev. Peacefully at home on January 19th. Dearly loved husband of Betty, father, grandfather and great grandfather. Funeral service at St Nicholas, Thames Ditton, Wednesday 28th January 2.30 pm followed by interment. Family flowers only. Donations to Sight Savers International may be sent to Fredk Paine 265 Ewell Road, Surbiton.

RUBENS - Robert, novelist, of Warwick Way, London SW1. On Wednesday 14th January, 1998 at The Royal Marsden Hospital. Funeral details to be announced, or contact Charles Hills 0171 627 1093, or solicitors: Stephen Innocent, 21 Fetter Lane, EC4 on 0171 353 2000

SHARP - Kenneth Charles, 55. Died January 8th 1998 in Bristol after a short illness. Memorial Service to be held in London end of February.

SPENCE - M. Jean Spence (née Smith) born 29th February 1940, died after a short illness at Southampton General Hospital on January 15th 1998. Funeral Service at St Thomas' Church, Lymington, Hampshire on Monday January 26th at 2pm followed by Interment at Highfield Cemetery. A Memorial Service will be held in London later. Family flowers only. All enquiries and donations, if desired, for Trinity Hospice, may be sent c/o F. W. House & Sons, 9/11, Lymington, Hampshire, SO41 9NB. (01590 673142).

STRADLING - Leslie, formerly Bishop of Johannesburg, died peacefully at Bramber House, Capetown, on 8th January, aged 89. A much loved and respected Bishop for 58 years, he will be greatly missed by family and friends.

TEMPLETON - William Reay peacefully at home on 17th January, 1998. Dear husband of Monica and brother of Vera Dyer also loved, and loved by, Andrew and Jill Scoundy and Grandchildren Mark, Emma and Victoria. Funeral service on Friday, 23rd January at 3pm at St George's, Hanover Square, London, W1; family and friends afterwards at The Oriental Club, Stratford Place, W1. Flowers please but donations, if desired, to King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers, 10 Beaumont Street, London W1 who also cared for Reay.

WARNER - John Edgar, suddenly on 12th January 1998, aged 72 years, formerly manager of Nat West Bank, Shirley, Croydon. Very dear husband, father and grandfather.

WILSON - On Friday January 16th, peacefully after a very short illness, Revd. Leonard Charles, aged 79, faithful minister of the Gospel for fifty three years. Beloved husband of Isobel, father of Andrew and Mary, grandfather of Nicola, Gregory, Alex, Alice, Sophie, Sophie and Sally. Funeral at Pinner United Free Church on Wednesday January 28th at 1.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Retired Baptist Ministers Housing Society Ltd or The Friends of Crowhurst Rectory Fund, c/o Bradley & Jones, 6 Love Lane, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 3EH. Tel: 0181 866 0088.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

CHAPPLE - Brian. Memorial Service 11.30am, 12th February at St Botolph's Church, Aldgate.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

THOMSON - Sir John. A Memorial Service will be held at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on 28th March at 2.30pm. For details Tel: 01865 815830.

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OBITUARIES

PETER DIAMAND

Peter Diamand, artistic administrator, died in Amsterdam on January 16 aged 84. He was born in Berlin on June 8, 1913.

For 13 years in the 1960s and 1970s Peter Diamand ran the Edinburgh Festival. This length of tenure was never approached by those who preceded him, nor equalled by those who came after. When he arrived to take up the position in 1965 he was virtually unknown in Britain and hardly fitted the public image of a festival director.

Flamboyant was the last adjective to applied to Peter Diamand. He was a small, almost mole-like figure, blinking behind heavy glasses. Like a mole he burrowed quietly and worked extremely hard to achieve what he wanted. His trademark was an ever-present cigarette, often hanging from the corner of his mouth and dripping ash on to the inevitable grey suit.

His predecessors — Rudolf Bing, Ian Hunter, Robert Ponsonby and George Harewood — had all enjoyed the glamour of the job, which included being "front of house". That held no attraction for Diamand. His desire was to secure and maintain Edinburgh's position as the leading presenter of music by way of symphony concerts and operas through to the best work of contemporary composers. Drama, dance and exhibitions were also to play their part. But Diamand's heart was wedded to music and to making sure that the Edinburgh International Festival lived up to the middle word of its title.

He was well equipped to do this. His upbringing was cosmopolitan and he spoke half-a-dozen European languages fluently. He was born an Austrian citizen into a Jewish family — a Romanian mother and an Austrian father. Both were good amateur musicians. He was educated at the Schiller-Realgymnasium in Berlin and went to Berlin University, where he read law and journalism. As a youth he had already begun to feel the first waves of anti-Semitism and in 1933 his mother decided — his father had died when Peter was a child — to move the family to Holland. He was later to take up Dutch citizenship, which he retained all his life.

Diamand was to live in The Netherlands for the next 20 years, which included a period in a concentration camp for Jews at Westerbork, from which he was lucky not to be deported to Auschwitz. But he escaped from Westerbork and spent the latter part of the war in hiding. The first major influence on him in The Netherlands after the war was the pianist Artur Schnabel, whom Diamand got to know through a friendship with his son. Schnabel engaged Diamand as a secretary and through this position he got his taste of artistic life — and intrigue.

In 1946 Diamand joined the administration of The Netherlands Opera. With that experience behind him, in 1948 he went to direct the infant Holland Festival and stayed there 17 years. He was never a man to hop from job to job.

It was the breadth of that festival, not only in the different arts it covered but in the multiplicity of venues used, that stood Diamand in good stead when he arrived in Edinburgh. So also did his experience of running a big festival on a small budget. His non-stop battles



with Edinburgh's parsimonious city fathers were to become part of artistic legend.

His first festival featured the work of Alban Berg, a sure sign that Diamand was not going to pander to a lollipop-loving public. But perhaps the most important event was the appearance at very short notice of a little known pianist called Daniel Barenboim. It was the start of a long friendship. Barenboim was conducting his first opera, *Don Giovanni*, for Diamand at the festival and years later, when the Edinburgh days were over, was to make Diamand his artistic adviser at the Orchestre de Paris.

Diamand made something of a speciality of pianists. Argerich, Orozco and Pollini were among those in whom he put his trust. He also brought Benjamin Britten to the festival, and one of the most memorable evenings in his early years was a *War Requiem* conducted by Giulini with the then reigning top cast of Vishnevskaya, Pears and Fischer-Dieskau.

His one major failure was his inability to persuade the city to build a much-needed opera house. He made it one of his first demands; but pleading was to no avail — as his successors, too, were to find out. But that did not prevent opera of the very highest class being staged in the cramped King's Theatre. The year 1971 brought *La cenerentola* with Berganza in the title role and a chance for Britain to hear Claudio Abbado as an opera conductor. Diamand's links with Abbado remained close and the combination provided possibly the finest all-round evening of opera ever heard at Edinburgh, the *Carmen* of 1977, long planned and eventually heard with Berganza again and Domingo as Jose. Diamand saw it to some extent as his swansong and in its wake subsequent opera productions in the city looked feeble.

It was a regular criticism of the Diamand years that too much effort and money were spent on classical music and not enough on the other arts. This overlooks Diamand's readiness not only to introduce to British audiences leading European theatrical figures such as the Italian producer and director Luca Ronconi, but also to nurture the home-grown product. In the mid-1970s the Actors Company made regular visits to the festival and during the course of them Ian McKellen established himself as one of the leading members of the new generation of actors. The Romanian stage director Andrei Serban was another man to come to Edinburgh (with the La Mama company) before his name was generally known in this country.

When he first took up the post Diamand said that one of his chief aims was to make "artists and audiences feel happy". The order of the sentence is important. Diamand's great gift was to spot talent early, establish a friendship and maintain it. When, on leaving the Edinburgh Festival, he faced the inevitable question about what he saw as his greatest achievement there he replied laconically: "To have made sure one could get a decent meal after the end of the performance. They certainly couldn't when I arrived: everywhere was closed." Diamand thus contributed greatly to the increased pleasure of his audiences as well as to his own. He was always the night bird, talking into the small hours and shunning morning engagements when possible.

After in 1978 handing over the reins to John Drummond — he had been appointed an honorary CBE in 1972 — he seemed for a time a slightly lost figure. His send-off at the Usher Hall had been a star-studded one, with a great number of those whom he had helped to international acclaim turning out to perform in his honour. But his decision to become an orchestral administrator managing the RPO was probably a mistake.

Like most impresarios Peter Diamand was used to taking his own decisions and standing by them. That was not possible with a self-governing orchestra. Nor did he find the orchestral scene in London much to his liking. He left in 1981 with a certain amount of acrimony.

He spent a season at La Scala with his old friend Claudio Abbado and worked during the 1980s in Paris with his even older friend, Daniel Barenboim. Both drew substantially on his deep knowledge of the European music scene and especially of singers. Back in London he made occasional visits to the Festival Hall, apparently happy lighting another small cigarette and contemplating the follies of the musical world.

In Holland he was made a knight of the Order of Orange Nassau, and Austria, Czechoslovakia, Italy and France also honoured him for his work.

He was twice married, each time to a musician. His first wife was Maria Curcio, whom he met via Schnabel; his second was Sylvia Rosenberg, by whom he had a son. Both marriages were dissolved.



JOHNNY COLES

Johnny Coles, jazz trumpeter, died on December 21 aged 71. He was born on July 3, 1926.

NO OTHER trumpeter with such striking originality as Johnny Coles managed to work with so many of the world's leading jazz groups and yet remain so little known. "My name is definitely not a household word," he would admit ruefully to interviewers, "except among jazz buffs." In a career that spanned more than fifty years, he played with the bands of Gil Evans, Charles Mingus, Art Blakey, Ray Charles and Duke Ellington, as well as on a host of freelance recordings.

He was well known to British audiences for his 1971 appearances with Ellington (preserved on the album *The English Concerts*), and for his visits in the mid-1980s with the Count Basie Orchestra, under the leadership of Thad Jones. Coles's clear-toned, often witty and always tasteful playing, on both trumpet and flugelhorn, owed most to Miles Davis, and it was fitting that he had appeared on many of Davis's albums including *Porgy and Bess*, *Sketches of Spain* and the *Carnegie Hall Concert*.

John Coles taught himself trumpet in his native Trenton, New Jersey, from the age of 11, having pestered his mother for an instrument since he was eight. There was no money to pay for lessons, but his mother ensured that her son practised regularly, whipping him when he skipped off to play outside with friends. His efforts and her diligence were rewarded when he joined a local brass band at 13, the experience preparing him for service towards the end of the Second World War in a military band.

His first efforts as a professional trumpeter were with the local band Slappy and his Swingsters, but he soon graduated to the rhythm and blues band of Eddie "Cleanhead" Vinson. Like many such bands of the late 1940s, this included a number of would-be modern jazz musicians, including John Coltrane and Red Garland, who encouraged Coles's talent for jazz. Although he spent part of the early 1950s in similar rhythm and blues bands, he began, to get plenty of jazz experience with the drummer Philly Joe Jones, and the saxophonists Gene "Jug" Ammons and James Moody. Coles was to work with Jones again during the 1980s in Dameronia, the repertory band dedicated to the compositions of Tadd Dameron.

Through Moody, Coles came to the attention of the arranger Gil Evans, who not only worked closely with Miles Davis, but ran his own big band. Coles played with Evans for much of the period 1958-64, producing his most famous solo, *Sunken Treasure* on the album *Out of the Cool*. During the same period, Coles appeared as a sideman on albums with the guitarist Ray Crawford, the trumpeter Donald Byrd and the saxophonist Tina Brooks. His playing on the latter's final Blue Note session drew attention from critics, especially David Rosenthal who described it in his book *Hard Bop* as "thoughtful, at times melancholy and at others puckish".

The "puckish" tag was frequently applied to Coles's diminutive stature, but Rosenthal's apt description perfectly summarises Coles's playing on the few discs made under his own name. Beginning with *The Warm Sound of Johnny Coles* in 1961, his best work was on *Little Johnny C* from 1964, a standard he reached again in 1982 with *New Morning*, recorded in Europe with the pianist Horace Parlan.

In 1964 Coles joined Charles Mingus, appearing at New York Town Hall, before setting off for Europe. The band also included the saxophonists Eric Dolphy and Clifford Jordan, and was described by its drummer Dannie Richmond as Mingus's finest band. Like all jazz legends, it was destined to be shortlived. Eric Dolphy had decided to leave the group before it returned to America, but nobody foresaw that one week into the tour at the Salle Wagram in Paris, Coles would collapse on stage with a ruptured stomach wall, ending his association with Mingus with a prolonged stay at Neuilly Hospital.

Coles subsequently joined George Coleman and then Herbie Hancock's band, playing a powerful solo, *I Have a Dream*, on the 1969 album *The Prisoner*. From 1971 he was in the final incarnation of Duke Ellington's Orchestra, joining Ray Charles (with whom he had worked immediately beforehand) on Ellington's death in 1974.

A move to Oakland, California, in 1985 came shortly before he ended his subsequent association with the Basie band. But Coles was soon back freelancing in the East, living in New Jersey, Virginia and finally Philadelphia, where he worked often with local saxophonist Bobby Zankel. In February 1997 he was awarded a "Living Legend" award at Philadelphia's Peco jazz festival, and he continued to play until the summer, when illness finally prevented him from playing.

He was once married, but divorced. There were no children.

SIR DONALD MURRAY

Sir Donald Murray, KCVO, CMG, Ambassador to Sweden, 1980-84, died on January 8 aged 73. He was born on June 14, 1924.



DONALD MURRAY was one of those officers of strong character, intelligence and ability who became diplomats after the end of the Second World War. He was broad and very fit looking, and his determined expression, open and direct address and obvious effectiveness concealed a strong sense of humour and a companionable charm (especially evident in difficult times). After he retired, his eight years as complaints commissioner for the Channel Tunnel, 1987-95, continued his long association with delicate and contentious disputes.

Donald Frederick Murray was a scholar of King's School, Canterbury, and went from there as an exhibitioner to Worcester College, Oxford, where he studied international relations. He won an athletics half-Blue as a cross-country runner, and in 1943 he was commissioned in the Royal Marines. He was severely wounded and lost a leg during his unit's crossing of the River Maas in April 1945.

On his release in 1946, Murray returned to Oxford, where he was taught by Asa (now Lord) Briggs. He had lost so much weight after his leg was amputated, that he was light enough to join his college boat club as a cox.

In 1948 he entered the Foreign Service. His first two appointments abroad were as third secretary in Warsaw, and, after two years at the Foreign Office, as second secretary in Vienna until 1956.

On promotion to first secretary he was sent to another difficult job, in the political office of the GOC Middle East Land Forces in Cyprus during the Suez crisis. But 1957 brought a great change. During that year in London he gallantly underwent a series of operations on the stump of his amputated leg to permit his being sent anywhere in the world.

In 1958 he was posted as commercial secretary to the Embassy in Stockholm. He found the new country, the language and the hard work very enjoyable, and took the opportunity to teach himself to ski on his one leg.

Next came a 13-year association with Asia, beginning as as head of chancery in Saigon, and from 1966 to 1969 as head of the South East Asia Department.

After an enjoyable year as a student at the Royal College of Defence Studies (during which he was appointed CMG), he was in 1974 made Ambassador to Libya, where he remained for three years.

He returned to Asiatic affairs in 1977, and for three years had a very busy time as assistant under-secretary at the Foreign Office. Then, in 1980, he was given his last post as Ambassador to Sweden. He was appointed KCVO during the the Queen's state visit there in 1983.

Murray retired in the following year and returned to Kent, where for five years he worked for the Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Families Association and as an assessor chairman of Civil Service Selection Boards. He was made a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, held a number of directorships, and found the time to become a lay reader in the diocese of Canterbury. His last three years, however, were blighted by deteriorating health and sometimes severe pain from his war wounds.

While serving in Warsaw in 1949, Donald Murray married Marjorie Culverwell. She and their three sons and one daughter survive him.

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DRAPER Dorothy Elizabeth late of 110 Gloucester Road, Newbury, Berkshire. Date of death 27.12.1997. All claims to CHARLES LUCAS & MARSHALL, 28 BARTHOLOMEW STREET, NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE RG14 5BU (ref MJD) on or before 29.3.1998

VON CLEMM, FREDERICK MICHAEL, 58 Bedford Gardens, Kensington, London, died 6th November 1997; particulars to Morgan, Lewis & Bockius, Solicitors, 4 Charlton Gardens, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5AA before 30 March 1998

LEGAL NOTICES

Albert Robbins & Co Ltd
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Bedford Square, (2nd Floor), London WC1B 3RP, on 27th January 1998 at 12.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 or seq. It is not intended to propose any resolutions at the meeting concerning Liquidators remuneration, however the meeting may require information about or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the meeting.
A list of the names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Bedford Square, (2nd Floor), London WC1B 3RP, between the hours of 10.00am and 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 13th January 1998
M.L. Robins - Director

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PUBLIC NOTICES

BLACKBROUGH, NORMAN LISTER BLACKBROUGH late of Bradford, West Yorkshire died there on 20 November 1995 (Estate about £5,300)

BOYDELL, MARGARET HALL BOYDELL SPINSTER late of Deganwy, Gwynedd died at Colwyn Bay, Colwyn on 16 September 1997 (Estate about £400,000)

BUTCHER, RONALD BUTCHER late of Highgate Hill, London N19 died there on 15 May 1997 (Estate about £5,400)

CLARKE, PATRICK JOSEPH CLARKE late of Peterborough, Cambridgeshire died there on 15 April 1997 (Estate about £16,000)

COATHAM, HARRY COATHAM late of Leeds, West Yorkshire died there on 2 May 1996. (Estate about £100,000)

CRIDFORD, ETHEL MAY CRIDFORD SPINSTER late of Torquay, Devon died there on 22 October 1997 (Estate about £70,000)

DAVIES, GEORGE ALFRED DAVIES late of Cwmgwrach, Neath, West Glamorgan died at Morriston, Swansea on 17 October 1997 (Estate about £100,000)

HIBBARD, MABEL KATE HIBBARD otherwise MABEL HIBBARD SPINSTER late of Ewell, Surrey died there on 10 September 1997 (Estate about £100,000)

HRON, WACLAW HRON late of Acton, London W3 died at Park Royal, London NW10 on 15 September 1997 (Estate about £3,700)

JONES nee DE GRUCHY, LILLIAN ANNIE JONES nee DE GRUCHY WIDOW late of Cardiff, South Glamorgan died at Penarth, South Glamorgan on 26 September 1994 (Estate about £3,700)

KUHLIK, RICHARD OSCAR KUHLIK late of Ringstead, Northamptonshire died at Kettering, Northamptonshire on 5 March 1996 (Estate about £5,500)

LOWNDES, KENNETH JOHN LOWNDES late of Burton on Trent, Staffordshire died there on 20 September 1997 (Estate about £4,600)

LYEACHT, RAYMOND JAMES LYEACHT otherwise RAYMOND LYEACHT late of Rotherhithe, London SE16, died at Southwark, London SE1 on 28 July 1996 (Estate about £3,198)

MAIDMENT, JESSY GERTRUDE MAIDMENT SPINSTER late of Wimbledon, London SW19 died there on 3 December 1996 (Estate about £6,000)

MATTHEWS, PEGGY JOAN MATTHEWS otherwise PEGGIE JOAN MATTHEWS SPINSTER late of Staveley, Yorkshire died at Reading, Berkshire on 11 April 1996 (Estate about £65,000)

MOSLEY, FLORENCE MOSLEY SPINSTER late of Ilford, Essex died there on 26 August 1996 (Estate about £7,500)

ROBINSON, HARRY ROBINSON late of West Bowling, Bradford died there on 5 August 1995 (Estate about £20,000)

RODER formerly CROZIER nee SEYMOUR, ROWENA MARION ISABEL RODER formerly CROZIER nee SEYMOUR WIDOW late of West Molesey, Surrey died there on 28 December 1996 (Estate about £90,000)

SMITH nee MATHER, ELLA SMITH nee MATHER WIDOW late of Newton, Chester, Cheshire died there on 21 November 1997 (Estate about £120,000)

SMITH, formerly ABDULLAH nee MOHAMMED, SEMEK BUNTI SMITH formerly ABDULLAH nee MOHAMMED otherwise SEMEK BILLIE SMITH formerly ABDULLAH nee MOHAMMED WIDOW late of Easton, Bristol died at Kingswood, Bristol on 9 May 1997 (Estate about £6,600)

TAYLOR, DORIS TAYLOR WIDOW late of Sparkhill, Birmingham died there on 5 January 1997 (Estate about £2,000)

TOWERS, DENNIS TOWERS late of Leicester died there on or about 16 July 1997 (Estate about £150,000)

WATSON, WILLIAM HENRY WATSON late of Hardspool, Cleveland died there on 26 April 1997 (Estate about £8,000)

WHITEHEAD, HAROLD CHARLES LEE WHITEHEAD otherwise HAROLD WHITEHEADlate of Southsea, Portsmouth died at Portsmouth on 18 June 1996 (Estate about £10,000)

The kin of the above named are requested to apply to the Treasury Solicitor (BV), Queens Anne's Chambers, 28 Broadway, London SW1H 9JS, stating which the Treasury Solicitor may take steps to administer the estate.

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BOMBS ON EAST COAST TOWNS.

A representative of the *Eastern Daily Press*, Norwich, telephones that one bomb dropped on the South Quay at Yarmouth immediately opposite the First and Last tavern where a fissure was made in one of the granite sets of the roadway.

The landlord, Mr. A. Smith, showed the correspondent, who early visited the scene, some fragments picked up immediately after the explosion. He had gone to the door of his inn on hearing a loud buzzing noise heralding the approach of the aircraft. When the explosion occurred he ran out and picked up some pieces of the bomb, which were still warm when the correspondent himself handled them. It was impossible to ascertain the character or dimensions of the missile from this fragment. No damage was done to the premises, except for the shattering of a window. Close by was stationed a sentry who said one bomb fell near him, but did no damage and only struck the quay. He immediately fired upon the air-vessel. All who were in the neighbourhood at the time state they saw a tall flame and then came a terrific report.

How many buildings were struck it is difficult to say for the moment, but people in various quarters of the town say they saw several bombs dropping. Lights frequently darted across the sky, and it is believed that the machines were equipped with search lights.

A resident in St. Peter's-road estimates that windows were smashed in his district to the value of £40. The bomb dropping was over in a little more than 10 minutes at the outside. Police and special constables assembled at the Central Police Station and as reports came in they were dispatched to the quarters affected. People gathered in the streets in knots deeply concerned at what had happened, but disappeared when the electric lights were extinguished.

At Sheringham what was believed to be a Zeppelin passed over the town at 8.45pm. its approach being heralded by the loud hum of its engines. The aircraft encircled the church and was just visible to the naked eye. It dropped one bomb, which hit a house in the corner of Whitehall yard, Wyndham-Street. It struck the top of the roof and then passed through to the ground floor, but fortunately did not explode. In its descent it entered a room occupied by a man, his wife and child, the child having a wonderful escape. The failure of the bomb to explode is believed to have been due to the fact that its fuse had become detached during its descent. Another bomb was, it is stated, dropped at Beeston, and this also failed to explode. After dropping its bomb the Zeppelin made seaward. A man found outside his house at St. Peter's Plain, with his head smashed, has been identified as Samuel Smith, a shoemaker.

A woman, whose identity had not been established up to a late hour last night, was also found dead, while a soldier was discovered in Norfolk-square with a wound in his chest. The two bodies were conveyed to the mortuary and the wounded soldier was taken to hospital . . .

ON THIS DAY

January 20, 1915

Among the towns bombarded by the Zeppelins were Yarmouth, Cromer and King's Lynn. More than 20 people were killed.

Chancery Division | Law Report January 20 1998 | Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Assigned debts not covered

Kova Establishment v Sasco Investments Ltd

Before Mr John Martin, QC

[Judgment December 19]

Where a guarantee and charge secured all moneys owed by the borrowers, there had to be some indication in the documents themselves that the parties did not contemplate that debts assigned by a third party would not be covered. Such an indication could be found in the differing interest rates applying to the assigned debt and the guaranteed loan.

Mr John Martin, QC, sitting as a deputy judge in the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment, released for reporting after a hearing in chambers, on a summons for summary judgment by Kova Establishment, a Liechtenstein limited company which was a trustee for three brothers, against Sasco Investments Ltd.

Mr Philip Hinser for Kova; Mr Richard de Lacy for Sasco.

HIS LORDSHIP said that Kova was the guarantor of a loan under a guarantee dated June 24 given to Sasco by which it guaranteed to pay on demand "all moneys and liabilities which shall for the time being be due and owing incurred by the borrowers ... whether solely or jointly".

Simultaneously, a charge securing the loan on a freehold property was executed "to secure the loan plus any moneys due and owing by [the borrowers] ... and all other moneys owed to us by [the borrowers] from time to time".

The charge defined the borrowers as the three brothers "all jointly and severally" and "the total debt" as all moneys due in respect of the 1994 loan "and any further moneys which may become due and owing from time to time by [Kova] and/or the borrowers to [Sasco] including but without limitation moneys due under the guarantee".

Some two years previously, on October 13, 1992, one of the brothers had taken a loan of some £125,000 from a third party. On August 14, 1995 the third party assigned the 1992 loan to Sasco. The question was whether the 1992 loan was covered by the 1994 guarantee and charge.

Sasco said that the words of the guarantee and charge were clear and unambiguous and plainly apt to cover any debt owing to Sasco by all or any of the brothers however that debt arose and however it came to be due to Sasco.

As a matter of construction his Lordship agreed with Sasco. A loan obtained by one only of the brothers was accordingly within the literal wording of the documents.

But Kova also said that it could not have been within the contemplation of the parties that debts owed to a third party should become subject to the guarantee and charge by assignment. It said that the documents should be approached on the basis of an expectation that they would not cover such debts, as suggested by Mr Justice Brooking in an Australian case *In re Clark's Refrigerated Transport Pty Ltd* ([1982] VR 989, 995).

But Mr Justice Brooking had cast doubt on the permissibility of approaching the question with a predisposition towards the view that the grantor of an all obligations mortgage or debenture did not contemplate that assigned debts and liabilities might be used to swell the moneys hereby secured and dealt with the matter on the basis of specific indications in the documents themselves that no such swelling was intended.

That seemed to his Lordship the correct method to adopt: it could not be right to disregard the clear wording of a document simply on the basis of an abstract expectation as to the bargain the parties might have struck. There had to be some indication in the document itself that they did not contemplate that assigned debts would be covered.

His Lordship found such an indication in clause 4(1) of the charge which made interest payable on the total debt at a defined rate after demand had been made.

He referred to another Australian case before Mr Justice Needham in the Supreme Court of New South Wales *Skylink International Courier Pty Ltd v Grellman* (unreported, September 21, 1987).

Mr Justice Needham had stated that a provision "for the payment of interest on the moneys hereby secured tends strongly against any suggestion that moneys owed originally by the mortgagor to a third party, but assigned to the mortgagee, would come within the expression the moneys hereby secured.

"It would, in my opinion, be extraordinary if the mortgagor owed money to a third party under which interest was not payable, but upon assignment by that third party to the mortgagee the sums due originally to the third party, but now to the mortgagee, attracted the provision for interest."

The interest provision in that case was one which required payment of interest at any time if the mortgagee demanded it, and so differed from that in the present case which applied only after payment of the principal had been demanded. Moreover, the *Skylink* case did not concern a guarantee.

Nevertheless his Lordship shared Mr Justice Needham's reaction. If Sasco was right, and assigned debts, on which interest was payable at a different rate from the interest on the guaranteed loan, were covered by the guarantee and charge, the effect might be to alter the amount which the creditor was entitled to receive and the guarantor, but not necessarily the debtor, was obliged to pay.

His Lordship found it hard to believe that such a position could have been intended by the parties.

It was one thing to agree to a change in the interest rate in respect of debts expressly in contemplation or to arise in the future, and quite another to give carte blanche to a variation of the terms of any debt the creditor might care to acquire.

What he found so startling about the position contended for by Sasco was the lack of control over events which was left to Kova. If it was possible to bring any debt incurred by any of the brothers under the cloak of the guarantee and charge merely by taking an assignment, then it was possible to change unsecured debts into secured ones and alter the rate of interest without any consent on the part of the brothers, still less on the part of Kova.

Vulnerable though Kova no doubt was as guarantor of future liabilities of the brothers capable of being incurred without Kova's consent, they would at least have to be incurred with the consent of the brothers themselves; and given the connection between Kova and the brothers, that was at least some protection.

No such protection could apply to a loan, obtained originally on the basis that it was unsecured, which became subject to the security by an assignment.

His Lordship did not consider that it could be said to have been the intention of the parties that Kova should be placed in that position, and he declined to construe the guarantee and charge as having that effect.

Accordingly, he proposed to declare that the charge did not extend to the disputed sum, and to direct its payment to Kova.

Solicitors: Nigel Adams & Co; Marriott Harrison.

Delivering accused to Irish police

Regina v Governor of Belmarsh Prison and Another, Ex parte Gilligan

Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Astill

[Judgment January 12]

Section 2(2) of the Backing of Warrants (Republic of Ireland) Act 1965 required a magistrate to be satisfied only that the offence revealed in the warrant amounted to a sufficiently serious offence under United Kingdom law before he could order the delivery of an accused to the authorities in the Republic of Ireland. He was not to receive evidence whether the conduct of the accused amounted to an offence in the United Kingdom.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when refusing the application of John Gilligan for a writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum to be issued against the Governor of Belmarsh Prison and the Government of the Republic of Ireland, save to the extent of quashing two of the seven warrants issued against him, subsequent to the decision of Mr D. Cooper, a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate sitting at Belmarsh, to order that he be delivered up to the authorities of the Republic of Ireland.

Section 2 of the 1965 Act, as amended by section 4(4) of the Criminal Jurisdiction Act 1975, provides: "(1) So soon as is practicable after a person is arrested under a warrant endorsed in accordance with section 1 of this Act, he shall be brought before a magistrates' court and the court shall ... order him to be delivered at some convenient point of departure form the United Kingdom into the custody of the a member of the police force ... of the Republic ...

"(2) An order shall not be made under subsection (1) of this section if it appears to the court that the offence specified in the warrant does not correspond with any offence under the law of the part of the United Kingdom in which the court acts which is an indictable offence or is punishable on summary conviction with imprisonment for six months ..."

Miss Clare Montgomery, QC and Mr James T. Lewis for the applicant; Mr Nigel Peters, QC and Mr Shane Colley for the Governor and the Republic.

LORD JUSTICE MAY, giving the judgment of the court, said that Miss Montgomery had submitted that "offence" should be construed to mean the conduct which was alleged and then see whether it would add up to a corresponding indictable offence specified in the warrant. Mr Cooper undertook no such inquiry and therefore the proceedings before him were not in accordance with the 1965 Act.

Mr Peters submitted that the relevant words in the 1965 Act meant that the magistrate had to look for correspondence with an offence under English law from the terms of the Irish warrant. He submitted that that was intended to be a simple and speedy process and one which could be the task of any magistrates' court, not that of specialist stipendiary magistrates.

In his Lordship's view the meaning of "the offence specified in the warrant" was clear. It meant quite simply that the court had to read the warrant to find the offence which was there specified.

Miss Montgomery in effect asked the court to construe the word "offence" as meaning "the conduct alleged to constitute the offence" but her submission ignored the words "specified in the warrant" and took no account of the fact that the words "if it appeared to the court" required judicial consideration irrespective of any initiative by the parties. Her construction required the parties to put before the court additional material.

In his Lordship's view, the court had to read the warrant to find what offence was there specified. However the warrant was drawn, that was what the court had to look at. No other material was admissible to determine "the offence specified in the warrant".

Exceptionally, evidence might be admissible for the strictly limited purpose of explaining technical language in the warrant or words which an English court would not otherwise understand.

Such evidence would not extend to explaining the legal components in Irish law of any label given to the offence in the warrant. A warrant with short particulars would to that extent specify conduct. It was to that extent a conduct-based inquiry. But the conduct was to be derived from the warrant, not from external material or evidence.

The offence specified in the warrant had to "correspond with any offence under [English] law which is indictable or punishable on summary conviction with imprisonment for six months".

The word "any" showed that the court was not necessarily looking for an English offence which was identical with the offence specified in the warrant nor one whose juristic elements were the same rather for a sufficiently serious offence which what was specified in the warrant would correspond with in English law if what was specified in the warrant had occurred in England.

In cases involving the Extradition Act 1989 the magistrate had to inquire into the conduct alleged to see whether it would constitute an offence under English law but in his Lordship's view statute and authority gave no support for Miss Montgomery's construction of section 2(2) of the backing of 1965 Act.

Solicitors: Stokoe Partnership; Leytonstone; Crown Prosecution Service, Special Casework Unit.

Time on remand counts once

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Kitaya

Time spent in custody on remand for which a defendant was given credit in calculating the period of imprisonment was treated as part of that period of imprisonment.

That same period on remand could not therefore be taken into account a second time in relation to a further period of imprisonment imposed on a separate occasion for different offences and not ordered to be served either concurrently or consecutively.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Mance) so held on January 13 when refusing applications for judicial review and a writ of habeas corpus by Mesa Bienveni Kitaya in respect of his release date from Verne Prison where he was serving a three-year term of imprisonment for conspiracy offences.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that periods spent in custody while serving another sentence were excluded from the calculation of any relevant period by which a sentence was treated as being reduced under section 67(1) and (1A) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967, as inserted by section 49 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. That was expressly stated in section 41(2) of the Criminal Justice Act 1991.

The days Mr Kitaya was in custody on remand were spent serving a six-month sentence for deception offences. They could not be double counted: see *R v Governor of Brockhill Prison, Ex parte Evans* (*The Times* November 20, 1996; [1997] QB 443) and *R v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte Naughton* (*The Times* September 17, 1996; [1997] 1 WLR 118).

Need is prior to budget

Regina v Social Fund Inspector, Ex parte Taylor

Before Mr Justice Dyson

[Judgment November 24]

A social fund inspector was required, when considering an application for a grant, to assess the need and determine its priority before taking budget considerations into account.

Mr Justice Dyson so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing an application for judicial review by Roger Taylor and quashing a decision by a social fund inspector to refuse to make a community care grant in his favour. The matter was remitted for another determination.

Miss Beverley Lang for the applicant; Mr Richard Gordon, QC, for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE DYSON said that the stage of the assessment of need was separate from consideration of the impact on the budget of meeting that need.

They were distinct aspects of the exercise that had to be performed in deciding whether or not to make an award, and if so, at what moment.

However, it was of the utmost importance to emphasise that the ultimate decision whether to make an award, and if so how much, was one for the judgment of the officer or inspector in the light of all the factors to which he was obliged by section 140(1) of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 to have regard.

Having assessed the nature, extent and urgency of the need and having determined that there were funds available in the fund to meet the need, the inspector might nevertheless decide, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, not to award part or all of the claim.

Prima facie, however, if the need had been assessed at a level for which the funds had been allocated, the award should be made where it would help the applicant to remain in the community rather than enter institutional or residential care: see section 140(2) of the Act.

Solicitors: Griffith Smith, Brighton; Richard Freeman & Co.

Expectation was unlawful

Regina v Barnet Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Cantor

No order for committal could be made for failure to pay a magistrates' court fine in the expectation that it would be paid by someone else even when such payment would come from a discretionary trust controlled by the defaulter's family.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Pill and Mr Justice Garland) so held on December 18 when granting the application of Stephen Cantor for certiorari to quash a suspended committal order made by Barnet Justices on September 2, 1996 and a committal order of December 9, 1996 made because of his default of payment of costs.

MR JUSTICE GARLAND said that the justices' clerk in his affidavit had deposed that the justices were correct in taking into account the existence of the discretionary trust as Mr Cantor received income from that source and had a wide and unfettered choice concerning the spending of that income.

In his Lordship's judgment, there was no distinction to be drawn between a fine and an order for costs: both the suspended committal order and the order actually committing the applicant to prison had been made on an incorrect basis in law.

The sum to be paid in was plainly beyond the plaintiff's means and if there was an expectation that it would be paid by a third party that too was unlawful.

Corrections

In *R v Brighton and Hove Council, Ex parte Marmint* (*The Times* January 15) it should have been made clear that although in Order 115 cases the council was under no duty to comply with DoE Circular 18/94, there was a residual common law obligation to act humanely and the judge found that in fact the council had complied with this obligation.

In *Glasgow City Council v Zafar* (*The Times* December 8) Mr Sepalx Monaughe was incorrectly referred to as a member of the Scots Bar. He is a member of the English Bar.

Technical primer

Chiron Corporation v Evans Medical Supplies Ltd and Others

When the technical issues arising in patent litigation were so complicated that it was necessary, instead of starting "cold", to put the court in a position to understand the science involved, the course that should in future be adopted was for the parties and their legal advisers to attempt to agree, well in advance of the trial date, the contents of a technical primer.

Mr Justice Laddie so held in the Chancery Division on January 16, after ruling that claims 1, 2 and 8 of European Patent (UK) No 0 162 639, now registered in the name of Evans Medical Supplies Ltd, concerned with antigenic preparations for use in acellular vaccines against whooping cough and claiming a priority date of May 12, 1984, were invalid.

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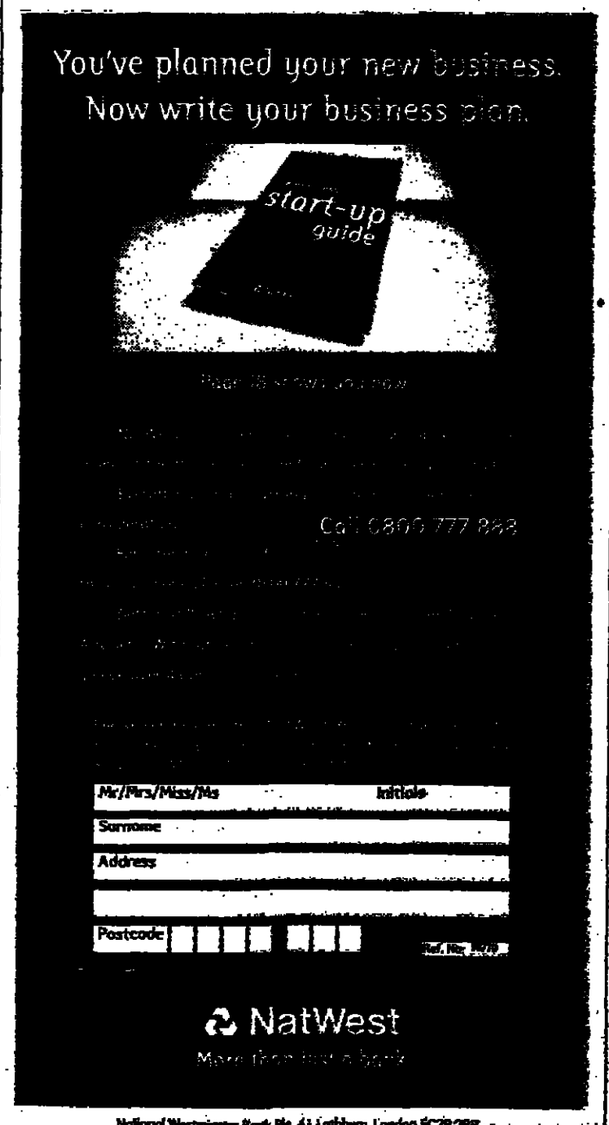
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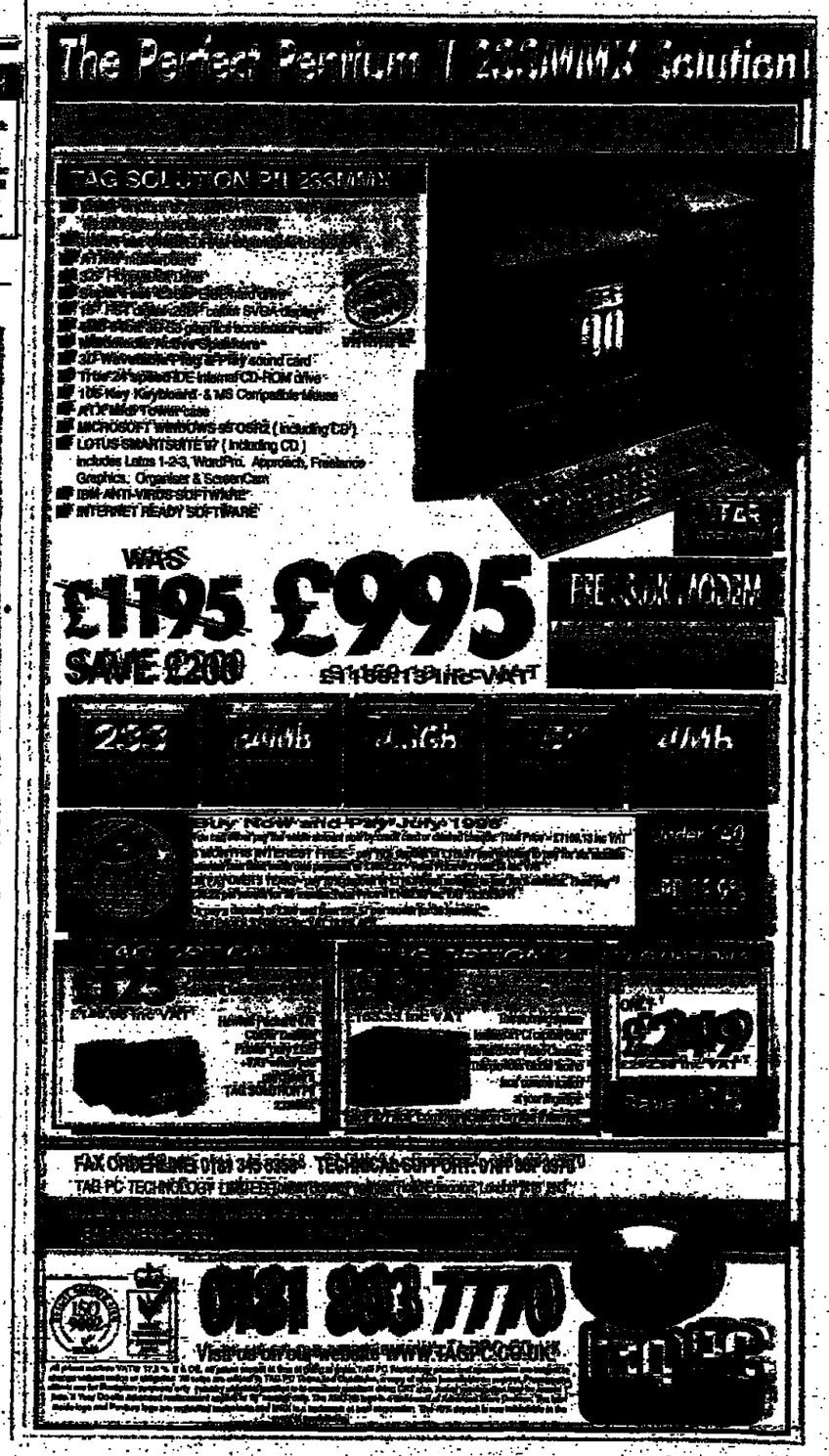
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COMPUTERS & COMPUTER SERVICES



Poor response to lending scheme for training needs

By Rodney Hobson

THE Small Firms Training Loan scheme, the government project designed to bridge the skills gap among smaller companies, appears to be only scratching the surface. Fewer than 100 companies a year are taking up the soft loans.

Barclays Bank, one of the first banks to join when the scheme was launched three years ago, has now lent more than £1 million. That is more than half the total lent by all the seven banks in the scheme. NatWest has lent about £500,000 and the other five banks have put up a total of about £500,000.

Even Mike Davis, managing director of small business banking at Barclays, admits: "While the £1 million mark is a milestone for this scheme we must put it into perspective. As a bank we are lending at any one time about £20 billion to businesses of all sizes. As a proportion of this, our loans through the Small Firms Training Loan are only a modest percentage."


Davis: "modest percentage"

The SFTL was set up in June 1994 by the Department for Education and Employment for firms with up to 50 employees. Loans can range from £500 to £125,000 to provide up to 90 per cent of finance needed for training. Average loans under the scheme are for about £7,500, so even Barclays has helped fewer than 150 firms.

However, Kim Howells, Training Minister at the Department for Education and Employment, says that the Government is no less keen on the scheme than were the Conservatives who set it up.

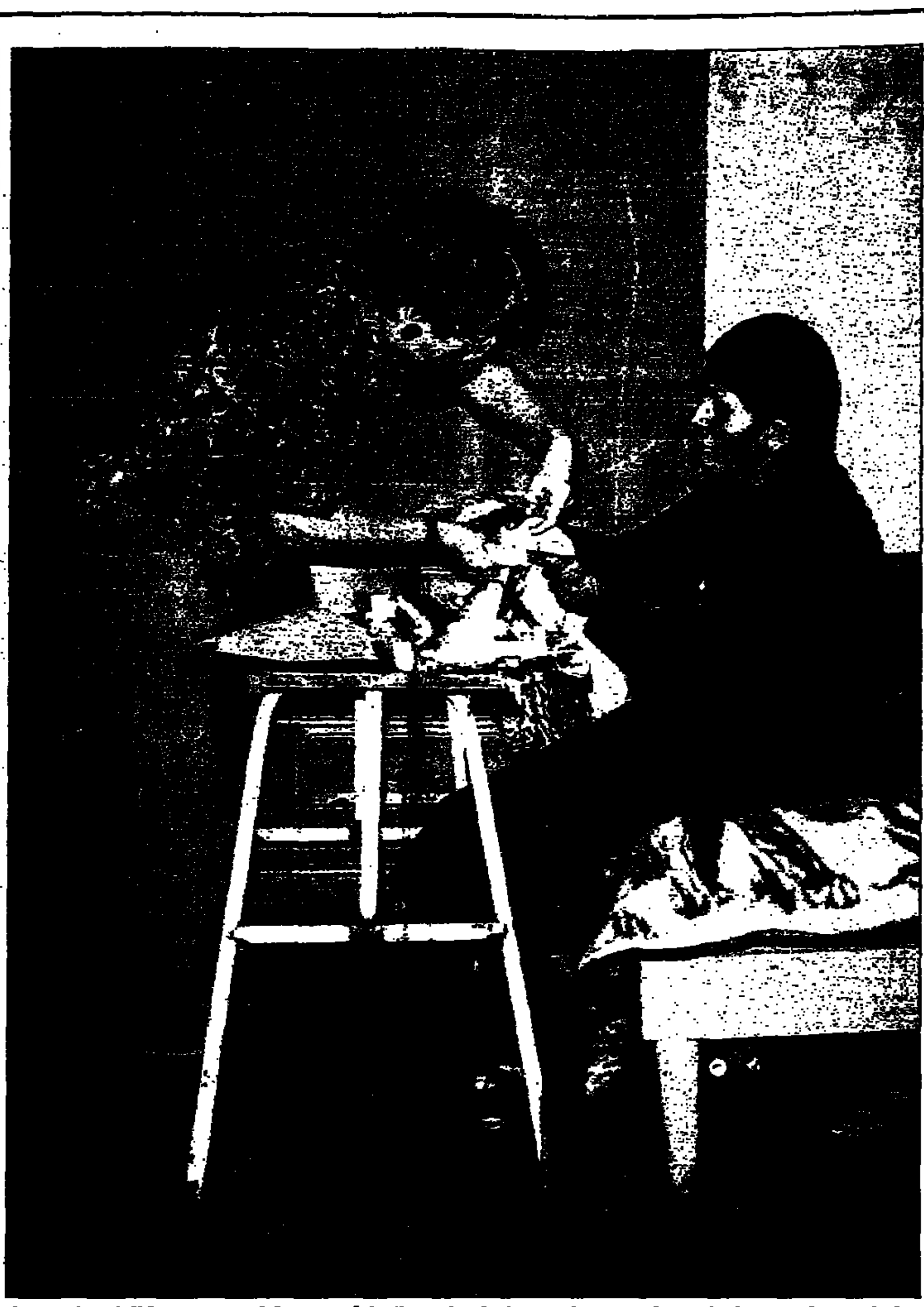
He said: "Since its national launch, the scheme, after a slow start, is now finding a successful niche market. The experience with other loan products points to a gradual build-up of interest as the product becomes established and accepted. The loans are helping a remarkably wide range of firms to respond to their employees' training needs by supporting an even wider range of courses."

Mr Howells added: "Firms that have taken part have said that they would not have been able to deliver their training programmes without its help and that the training purchased has helped to increase staff motivation and loyalty."

Mr Davis is also enthusiastic. He said: "I regard our lendings through the scheme as very important, symbolic as they are of a real commitment, both from us and our customers, to the importance of and the benefits that arise from training."

John Spence, head of the small business division at Lloyds TSB, agrees, and said: "More and more businesses are recognising the benefits of a well-trained workforce. Our research shows that only one in ten firms has a training budget. For a business to develop and strive to be ahead of its competitors, training must be taken seriously. The SFTL scheme presents an ideal opportunity to do that."

Mr Davis said: "From our research, we learn that nearly 70 per cent of small business owners feel that investing in training is important to the success of their business. However, only 30 per cent undertake training within the first three years of setting up. Time and money are key factors."


Jenny Randall inspects work by one of the Peruvian knitters whose products she imports into Britain

Importer finds markets for poor Peruvians

By Rodney Hobson

UNEMPLOYED workers who bemoan the lack of opportunities in this country could try visiting a shanty town in Peru, where unemployment can reach 80 per cent and women carry knitting machines on their backs as they seek work.

Jenny Randall made a trip to South America after taking voluntary redundancy and has started her own business as a result. Mrs Randall had already shown her versatility by lecturing on two unrelated subjects, machine knitting and computer graphics, at Greenwich Community College. Three years ago she managed to spend four months at Arequipa, the centre of the spinning industry in southern Peru.

The visit was supported by the British Executive Service Overseas (Beso), a non-profit organisation dedicated to matching British expertise with deserving enterprises overseas. Mrs Randall says: "My assignment arose from a request by an English missionary running a church in a shanty town. He had been given a knitting machine and had started exporting clothes made by his parishioners, but the colouring and the sizes were not what was wanted overseas."

Conscious that "if they didn't work they didn't eat", she returned to Britain determined to help the Peruvians to find new markets. After return visits, she set up an importing company last September. In the three months to Christmas turnover reached £23,000. The main products are clothing made from the wool of the alpaca, the domesticated llama, jewellery and crafts. Mrs Randall says: "Alpaca is equivalent to Cashmere, but it is much stronger and much lighter. It is superb quality. It can also be used undyed because there is a range of natural colours in cream, black and brown."

Arequipa is 8,200 ft up in the Andes, but its population has been swollen over the past 20 years by refugees escaping terrorists in more remote areas. This has brought its own problems. Mrs Randall explains: "There are so many people with knitting machines ... local markets are flooded with garments. So groups of knitters prefer to break into exporting."

To help the missionary, Mrs Randall ran a workshop in the home of one of the knitters. Mothers, aunts and daughters turned up carrying their machines. However, when the missionary returned to Britain, the co-operative was disbanded. Mrs Randall decided on direct action.

She had met Tony Crust, whose family firm, Nancy Vale, already imported clothing from other parts of the world and had a storeroom in Eltham, southeast London. Between them they set up a company within a company; although The Knitwear Design Showroom is part of Mr Crust's group, it is operated by Mrs Randall on an autonomous basis.

Nancy Vale was founded 25 years ago as a design company. It employs three family members, three designers and two other staff, plus a team of outworkers. Sales are mainly to large department stores in the US.

The Knitwear Design Showroom has about a dozen knitters working for it in Peru. Part of the Beso brief was to train someone to run the operation in Peru, and a university graduate was recruited to arrange the knitting, negotiate rates of pay, and make sure quality standards are met. She was brought to England on a three-month visit funded by the British Council.

Mrs Randall says: "The knitters prefer to work in their own homes because travelling to a workshop costs them money. They cannot all afford machines so three people in one family can share ... that way they all make money."

The Knitwear Design Showroom is on 0181-859 4844.

British expertise helps overseas

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The British experts are unpaid. Beso covers the cost of air fares, insurance and a small allowance, while the overseas company or organisation provides accommodation, food and transport. Assignments average two months, but can last from two weeks to six months. Follow-up visits are often made.

Beso is non-profitmaking. It was founded by the Government, the CBI and the Institute of Directors and is supported by British industry, charitable trusts, the European Union and multilateral aid organisations.

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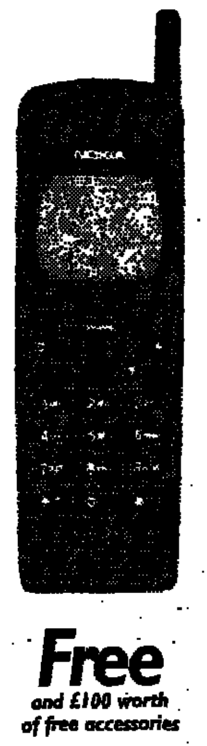
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More chances to score in the FA Cup league

Why extra-time heroics do not count towards ITF points totals; how to jump 43,000 places in a week; a quiet weekend for some


JOHN GILES/PA

Pressman, left, accepts congratulations after an display of saving and scoring that sadly did not score points in ITF

The story so far . . .

It's getting more confusing every week.
What is?
The fact that we're now involved in two simultaneous competitions.
I'm sure Ruud Gullitt's heart bleeds. He has to think about the league . . .
They're out of that now, I reckon . . .
. . . the Coca Cola Cup, and Europe.
Not to mention the Avon Insurance Combination. You didn't mention the FA Cup, I notice.
For obvious reasons.
It's strange, you know. My cup team is doing better in the league at the moment than my league team.
A triumph for your team selections, I would say.
Yes, you probably would. Kevin Gallacher, whom I signed to score goals against Wigan, was my main man against Villa this weekend. It's lucky I failed to follow your advice and get rid of him. A hat-trick — ten bonus points! My first; but he couldn't do it against second division opposition. How do you explain that?
Perhaps he took pity on them: it was Wigan's cup-final, after all. Very much as Manchester United may be expected to take pity on Walsall this Saturday.
You probably expect me to say something like, "The cup is a great leveller" now, don't you?
I never know what to expect. Next, you'll be telling me you've been doing some research on the Scottish Cup.
Very funny you should mention that. I took one piece of your advice — the one last week about looking north of the border — and unearthed an old contact. My spy tells me that Motherwell are "quietly confident" of a result at Dumbarton, for example; and another source gave me some interesting background on Edinburgh City. Apparently they are frighteningly committed. But I don't think it will save them at Dunfermline.
You sound frighteningly well-informed. I may have to take your predictions seriously. I'm looking for some bargains, and I was thinking of St Johnstone players — they're up against Partick Thistle. Did you find out anything about them?
Ah, the Jags. Not the soft touch they were a month or two ago, apparently.
Most impressive. Any shocks in store, according to your source?
Hamilton Accies to beat Rangers.
Er . . . you are joking, aren't you?
Of course, but I had you there for a minute.
I deny that.
Plus the cup *is* a great leveller, after all.
You had to spoil it, didn't you?

Before anyone telephones to inquire, the goalscoring exploits of Kevin Pressman, the Sheffield Wednesday goalkeeper, in last week's FA Cup third round replay victory over Watford at Hillsborough, do not qualify him for the 20 ITF points awarded to a goalkeeper who scores.

Wednesday was a night of personal glory for Pressman, who was criticised in some quarters after Wednesday's shaky start to the season; however, he kept a blank scoresheet against Watford through two halves and two periods of extra-time, then saved Micah Hyde's kick in the penalty shootout before stepping up to beat his opposite number with the final and winning spot-kick. However, neither the save nor the goal boost his points total in ITF. Although goals scored and penalties saved during extra-time count, shootouts do not; nor, unfortunately, do clean sheets kept in extra-time.

■ Kevin Gallacher's hat-trick for Blackburn Rovers against Aston Villa helped Mr P. McHale, of Taunton, Somerset, to become this week's highest climber. His 54 points took his team, Fecklessacolytes, up 43,567 places to 69,408th. Other contributors to Mr McHale's cause were Ray Parlour and Dennis Bergkamp of Arsenal and Michael Hughes of Wimbledon; all three were involved in successful cup replays. Hughes scoring two of his side's goals at Wrexham.

■ A "Not Involved" XI of players whose clubs are already concentrating on the league would include some star names: Roberto Di Matteo and Frank Leboeuf of Chelsea; Robbie Fowler and Steve McManaman of Liverpool; Matt Le Tissier and Kevin Davies of Southampton; Peter Beardsley and Noel Blake of Bolton Wanderers; and Gary Speed and Duncan Ferguson of Everton. Since FA Cup performances count towards the overall points total, remember that these players and their teammates are non-contributors to your selection this weekend.

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WOMEN'S LEAGUE
Monthly prize of premiership tickets, signed football and sports bag

WOMEN'S LEAGUE

1	S Brooks	Sandras Specials	661
2	S Whitfield	Snail Busters	645
3	M Hussain	Good Luck Malika	642
3	C Ruiz-Guimaraes	Cafeteria Aries	642
5	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	641
6	C Purdy	Kates Cosmos	635
7	A Hembrow	The Breconians 1	630
8	P Johnston	XII Superstars	629
9	A Finch	Annene's Angels	623
10	B Fletcher	Ab Fab	620
11	S Reader	Sophie Reader Fa	618
12	Adach	Fantasy Wolves II	605
13	J Peppar	Peppar Pots	603
14	L Emery	Buggsy's Boys	602
15	P Sloan	Patsio Utd	596
16	C Cheshire	No Name	595
17	L Fraser	Linda's Lagers	593
17	J Woolner	Janes FC One	593
19	C Purdy	Kates Upstarts	592
20	A Bearn	Harry's Heroes	590

STUDENTS' LEAGUE

1	N Wheatley	H D G Is A Sad Waster	725
2	G Wilson	Dog Soldiers	701
3	T Gardner	6 Chumbawumbas	675
4	N Wheatley	Witheridge is ill	672
5	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	641
6	J Windcatt	Father Shabooboo	605
7	N Wheatley	A Tight Horse Is Fun	602
8	E Carmichael	Jodi Masters	599
8	Steven Shipley	Set Against	599
10	C Marianczak	Jansen's XI	595
11	P Dunne	Class Act	586
12	F Ferguson	Saucy Sue Barker	581
13	J Frost	Variety Sports Inter	579
14	T Sharples	Mr Men	576
15	M Griffiths	The Town	574
15	W Razzak	Fantasista	574
15	I McGill	The White Helmets	574
18	N Razzak	Ariostea	573
18	D Garrett	The Splice Boys	573
20	K Wade	Inter Mars Ac	566

YOUTH LEAGUE

1	D Lewis	Lewis Boys 11	702
2	J Laurence	Smooth United	676
3	R Wicke	Robbed	671
4	M Somapala	Horley Flames	650
5	M McPhillips	Ballygallyrovers	649
6	J Gardner	15 Chumbawumbas	643
7	C Ovston	The Offspring FC	639
8	O Ledgard	Oliver's Army	602
9	C Marianczak	Jansen's Xi	595
10	N Brotherton	Total Commitment	591
11	K Tindall	Flash XI	588
12	M Roberts	Krystonia Three	586
13	E Swirles	Esther's Entertainers	577
14	J Brady	Jamie's Jammers	569
14	G Richards	G Force 2	569
16	A Simpson	Aye	568
17	A Rhymer	Team Select	559
17	N McGuinness	The Invincibles	559
19	B McMullan	No Opposition	557
20	M Guest	The Mamots	554

ITF LEAGUE

1	Mr M Jones	Jb6	812
2	Mike Madden	Poachers never change	799
3	Mr M Jones	Jb4	758
4	D Fenton	Out Of The Blue	758
4	Malcolm Jackson	No name	755
6	S Legg	Goose 4	754
7	G Rainbow	Rainbows Topteam	749
8	Mary Ann Kennedy	Inverness Undecided	747
9	D Shuter	Don 2	746
10	B Fazakerley	Life 4	746
10	Mr M Jones	Jb5	746
12	A Neviazski	Nadar	742
12	C Burr	Burr's Spurs 4	742
14	P Turner	Turners Earners 9	739
15	P Turner	Turners Earners 6	738
15	P Turner	Turners Earnt 5	738
17	A Luckhurst	Tobs	736
18	P Turner	Turners Earners 5	733
19	Dbusby	This Year's Lot	732
20	P Bown	Bees XI	729
21	N Wheatley	H D G Is A Sad Waster	725
21	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Strikers	725
23	B Bare	Teddy I	724
24	AJ Hastings	Golden Wonders	722
24	A Luckhurst	Caroline B	722
26	P Turner	Turners Earnt 1	719
27	K Farhall	Chelsea 6	718
28	D Shuter	DON 5	717
29	G Dolan	Genesis	712
29	Barba Papa a la Bacon	Novote Spoilers	712
31	Mr D Edbrooke Stainer	Ca	711
32	D Shuter	Rassell 2	710
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33	P Rees	Yukon Merchants	709
35	Mary Ann Kennedy	Too Farr	708
36	A Luckhurst	Toblitt	707
36	R Lockyer	Rachels	707
38	Mike Madden	MMM Fantasy Leaguers	706
38	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Streetfighters	706
40	J Strickland	CLANB	705
40	Susan Makin	Spud2	704
42	A Luckhurst	Caroline A	704
42	P Turner	Turners Earners 4	704
44	R Jones	Cell Block H	702
45	G Wilson	Dog Soldiers	701
46	A Luckhurst	Woof	700
46	Andy Robson	Club 18-30	700
46	J Hunt	John Hunt Taunton 7	700
46	Mr M Jones	Jb2	700
46	Mr A Colcombe	Mr Wads XI	699
51	Mr P Turner	Te T Cup	698
52	DM Carter	Pinewood Form	698
52	J Hunt	John Hunt Taunton 1	697
54	D Walton	Numpty Nuts	697
54	G Millington	Survivors	697
54	J Hunt	John Hunt Taunton 8	696
57	J Kitchen	Sinbes Dream	696
57	J Sanderson	Best Boy 5	695
59	F Boxall	Zara 3	695
59	D Ross	Liberos	695
59	Philip Ward	Wannabe Heroes XI	695
59	S Legg	Goose 5	695
63	Michael Hoddlestone	Pulp Faction III	693
63	J Hunt	John Hunt Fa Cup A	693
65	Jeremy Dwyer	Nudge Nudge Wink Wink	692
66	Jon Pregon	Jp 1	691
66	P Turner	Turners Earners 1	691
66	S Legg	Goose 8	691
69	R J Yates	Ace Adam 1	690
70	A Luckhurst	Eddie Woo	689
70	I Ralph	Marco Champions	689
70	Brian O'Hare	The Warriors	689
73	A Lynn	Angee's Bloaggys	688
73	Michael Horan	St. Patrick's Charioteers	688
73	Chris Forde	Game of Two Pints	688
73	G KDbner	United	688
77	Mr K Lethby	K143	686
78	D Shuter	Don 1	685
78	C Sloan	Brantingham FC	685
78	KL Amoss	Jabberwocky Town	685
78	RF Larkin	Kelson FC	685
78	P Turner	Turners Earners 8	685
83	J Sanderson	Best Boy 6	684
83	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Strollers	684
83	K Farhall	Chelsea 2	684
86	I Clayton	Dour Rangers	683
86	P Rawlings	Eastbrook Stars	682
88	M Lindquist	Hunsleys Rangers	682
88	Mary Ann Kennedy	Oilrig Pack RNG	681
90	Tim Oldfield	Winster Warriors 1	681
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93	Andrew	United United	680
93	B Fazakerley	LFC 1	680
95	Mr D Patel	Dp4	678
96	J Heather	Enid 4	677
96	Mr DG Philp	Obelisk Rovers 6	677
96	P Turner	Turners Earners 3	677
99	George Mijuskovich	Big Mac Europe	676
100	T Gardner	6 Chumbawumbas	675

PFA PLAYERS' LEAGUE

1	Paul Simpson	Derby County/Wolves	465
2	Steve Potts	West Ham United	461
3	Simon Grayson	Aston Villa	451
4	Alf-Inge Haaland	Leeds United	436
5	John Salako	Coventry City	435
6	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	430
7	Jonathan Hunt	Derby County	417
8	Dean Blackwell	Wimbledon	411
9	Rob Savage	Leicester City	410
10	David Tuttle	Crystal Palace	407
11	Phil Babb	Liverpool	403
12	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	396
13	Kevin Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	393
14	Tim Breacker	West Ham United	390
15	David Batty	Newcastle United	385
15	Bjorn Kvarme	Liverpool	385
17	Dean Holdsworth	Wimbledon	379
18	Kenny Cunningham	Wimbledon	377
19	Frank Leboeuf	Chelsea	376
20	Kyle Lightbourne	Coventry City	374
21	Dave Watson	Everton	373
22	David Seaman	Arsenal	371
23	Andy Townsend	Aston Villa/Middlesbrough	370
24	Chris Powell	Derby County	366
24	Teddy Sheringham	Manchester United	366
26	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	365
26	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	365
28	Patrick Berger	Liverpool	364
29	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	360
30	Nicky Butt	Manchester United	359
31	Paul Williams	Coventry City	354
32	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	351
33	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	348
34	David Wetherall	Leeds United	347
35	John Hendrie	Barnsley	344
36	Kevin Hitchcock	Chelsea	343
37	Lars Bohlman	Blackburn Rovers	338
37	Andy Roberts	Crystal Palace	338
39	Graeme Le Saux	Chelsea	331
40	Andrew Liddell	Barnsley	330
41	Ian Pearce	Blackburn Rovers/West Ham	327
42	John Beresford	Newcastle United	326
42	Kevin Muscat	Crystal Palace	326
44	Lee Sharpe	Leeds United	325
45	David Beckham	Manchester United	324
46	Gary Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	323
47	Kasey Keller	Leicester City	322
48	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	320
49	Darren Peacher	Crystal Palace	319
50	Jason Boxill	Wimbledon	317
51	Roger Cross	Tottenham Hotspur	316
52	Richard Johson	Leeds United	312
53	Robin Van Der Laan	Derby County	310
54	Spencer Prior	Leicester City	308
55	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	307
56	Pontus Kaamark	Leicester City	306
56	Robbie Fowler	Liverpool	306
58	Neil Redfearn	Barnsley	302
59	Andy Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	298
60	Stewart Castledine	Wimbledon	290
60	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	290
62	Steve Lomas	West Ham United	289
63	Gary Neville	Manchester United	288
64	John Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	280
65	Danny Williamson	Everton	278
66	Nicky Eaden	Barnsley	270
67	Mark Wright	Liverpool	266
68	John Harrison	West Ham United	265
68	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	265
70	Iain Dowie	West Ham United	255
71	Lee Carsley	Derby County	239
72	Alan Shearer	Newcastle United	238
73	Marc Edworthy	Crystal Palace	226
74	Gianfranco Zola	Chelsea	224
75	Mike Wisdow	Leicester City/Bolton	157

INTERNET LEAGUE

1	Mike Madden	Poachers never change	799
2	Mary Ann Kennedy	Inverness Undecided	749
3	P Bown	Bees XI	729
4	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Strikers	725
5	Barba Papa a la Bacon	Novote Spoilers	712
6	Mary Ann Kennedy	Too Farr	708
7	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Streetfighters	706
7	Mike Madden	MMM Fantasy Leaguers	706
9	Susan Makin	Spud2	705
10	Andy Robson	Club 18-30	700
11	Philip Ward	Wannabe Heroes XI	695
12	Michael Huddlestone	Pulp Faction III	693
13	Jeremy Dwyer	Nudge Nudge Wink Wink	692
14	Brian O'Hare	The Warriors	689
15	Chris Forde	Game of Two Pints	688
15	Michael Horan	St Patrick's Charioteers	688
17	Graeme Dabnor	St Remy Strollers	684
18	Mary Ann Kennedy	Oilrig Pack RNG	682
19	Tim Oldfield	Winster Warriors 1	681
20	Andrew	United United	680

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

ITF points are awarded in the FA Cup, Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's League Cup, Littlewoods Football Pools Premier Division, Littlewoods Irish Football Pools Premier Division, Littlewoods Scottish Cup, Tennents Scottish Cup and Tennents Scottish League. All not count but results contribute to positions in the Internet League.

POINTS AWARDED

Goalkeeper:		Striker:	
Keeps clean sheet (per half)*	+3 points	Scores goal	+2 points
Scores goal	+20 points	All players:	
Saves penalty	+1 point	On winning side	+1 point
Full backs/Central defender:		Appearance†	+1 point
Keeps clean sheet†	+3 points	Scores hat-trick	+10 bonus points
Scores goal	+4 points	Manager:	
Midfield player:		Wins	+3 points
Keeps clean sheet*	+1 point	Draws	+1 point
Scores goal	+3 points		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper:		Booked	-1 point
Concedes goal	-2 points	Concedes penalty	-1 point
Full backs/Central defender		Misses penalty	-1 point
Concedes goal	-1 point	Scores own goal	-1 point
All players		Manager	
Sent off	-3 points	Team loses	-1 point

** Must have played a complete half in the match to earn +3 points *Must have played for 75 minutes in the match †Must have played for 45 minutes in the match

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ENTER ITF

£1,000, a signed Mitre football and a Mitre Sports bag, and tickets to a premier league match of your choice can be won every month, plus the chance to win £10,000 in a separate FA Cup League so enter the ITF now.

The manager of the month can be won by any team, no matter where it is in the overall ITF league. The prize simply goes to the person whose team scores the highest points in any one month. If you are a student or a woman *(18 or over)* you may also enter the appropriate mini-league, while under-18 year olds enter the Youth league. These all carry separate monthly prizes.

By entering the ITF, your team will automatically be entered into a separate FA Cup league. Your players will earn you points for the FA Cup league *(Littlewoods FA Cup and Tennents Scottish FA Cup)* as well as the main ITF league.

Remember the earlier you register, the more transfers your team will be allocated.

HOW TO ENTER

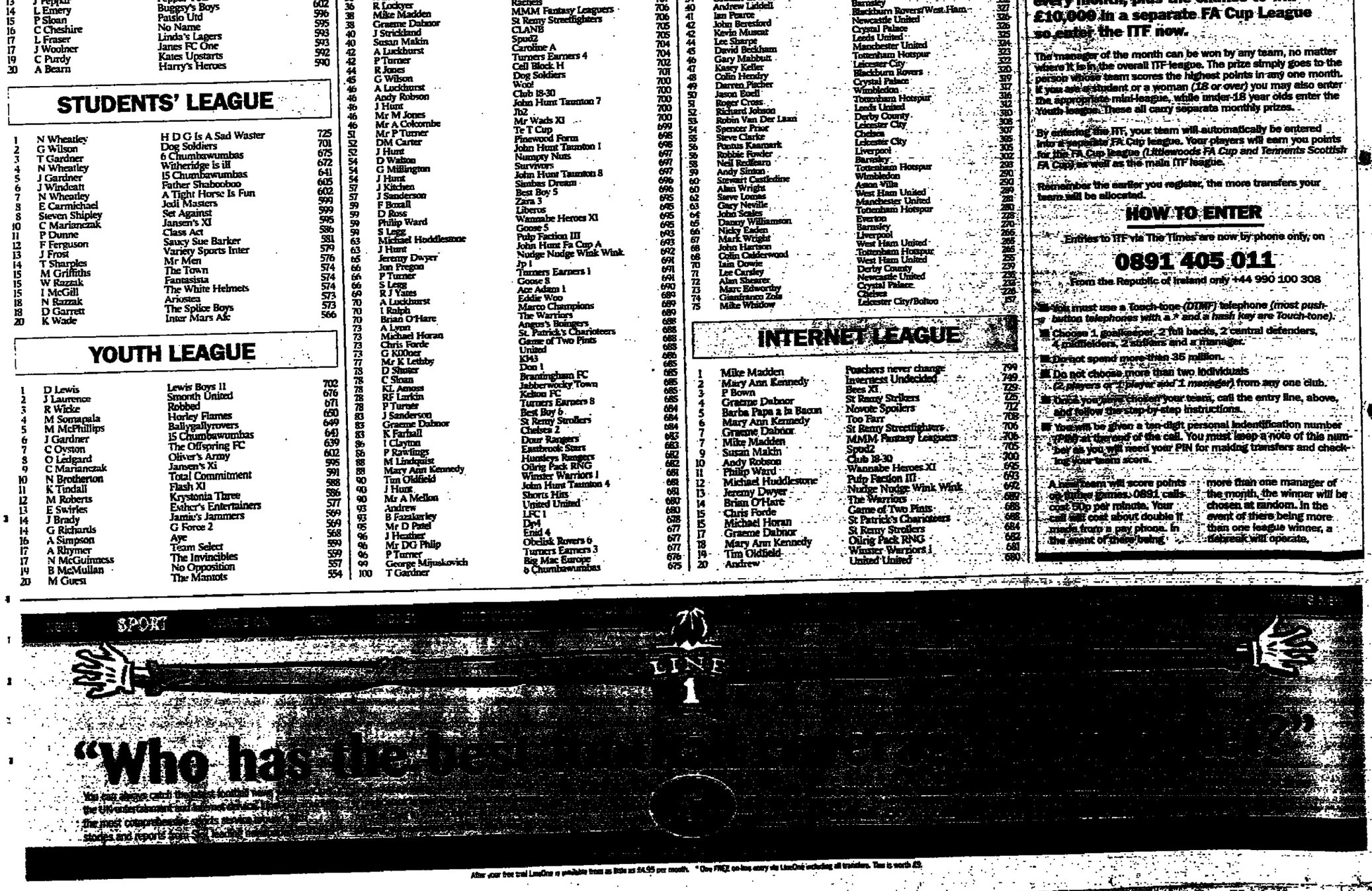
Entries to ITF via The Times are now by phone only, on

0891 405 011

From the Republic of Ireland only +44 990 100 308

- You must use a Touch-tone *(DTMF)* telephone *(most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone)*.
- Choose 1 goalkeeper, 2 full backs, 2 central defenders, 4 midfielders, 2 strikers and a manager.
- Do not spend more than 35 million.
- Do not choose more than two individuals *(2 players or 1 player and 1 manager)* from any one club.
- Once you have selected your team, call the entry line, above, and follow the step-by-step instructions.
- You will be given a ten-digit personal identification number (PIN) at the end of the call. You must keep a note of this number as you will need your PIN for making transfers and checking your team's score.

A new team will score points on its first games. 0891 calls cost 50p per minute. Your call will cost about double if made from a pay phone. In the event of there being more than one manager of the month, the winner will be chosen at random. In the event of there being more than one league winner, a tiebreak will operate.



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هكذا من الإهمل

Full guide to players in both ITF leagues



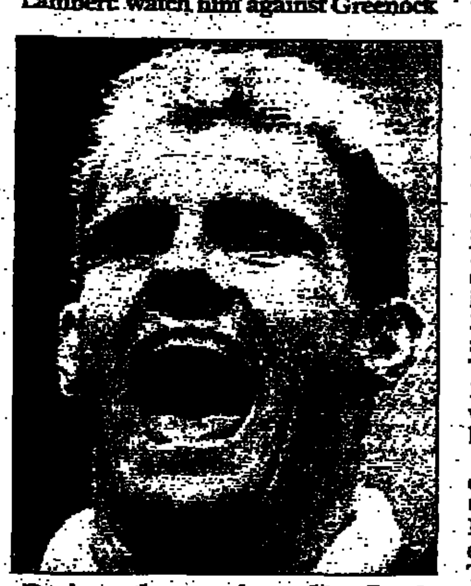
Gillespie: too good for Stevenage?



Lambert: watch him against Greenock



Burley: another Celtic one to watch



Durie: on the scoresheet v Hamilton?

As the FA Cup continues north and south of the border, shrewd observers will see potentially rich pickings in some of the matches

This weekend, players with the Scottish premier league clubs begin to score points in the ITF FA Cup league, and among the Tennents Scottish Cup fixtures are one or two ties which promise rich pickings for canny entrants.

While many of the games south of the border look too close to call, Crystal Palace v Leicester City, for instance, or Coventry City v Derby County, there could be some big wins in Scotland, although perhaps none to match the record 36-0 win by Arbroath over Bon Accord in 1885.

Dunfermline versus Edinburgh City is a good example. Despite an indifferent home record, the premier division side should be much too strong for the East of Scotland *League team who are playing* only the sixth Scottish cup tie in a long and colourful history, 30 years of which were spent as a non-playing social club. They returned to the field in 1986, *and to the cup in* 1996, when they began playing home games at Meadowbank.

Elsewhere, there are also comfortable-looking ties for Celtic (at home to Greenock Morton), *St Johnstone* (who entertain improving Partick Thistle) and, inevitably, Rangers, whose away game against Hamilton Academicals will be staged at *Fir Park*, Motherwell. Big scores in these games, with little likelihood of goals conceded, could mean that transferring in some of the probable points-scorers will reap rewards in terms of ITF points. The name of Marco Negri will come up, of course, but cheaper players may also find the net or keep clean sheets.

To the uninitiated, Hearts at home to Clydebank sounds like a walkover — but a glance at the league tables reveals that Clydebank, who top the Bell's Scottish League second *division, are unbeaten away* from home this season, having conceded only six goals on their travels, and may prove stubborn opposition.

In England, Walsall may fear a repeat of Manchester United's goalscoring sprees against Barnsley (seven) and Sheffield Wednesday (six), while Stevenage Borough against Newcastle United is *likely* to prove a *mismatch* wherever it is played. Leeds United will feel confident of seeing off Grimsby Town, who lost 7-1 to Sheffield Wednesday at Hillsborough in the third *round last year; but Wednes*day probably felt the same before their Coca-Cola Cup tie earlier this season. This time Grimsby took revenge, winning 4-3 on aggregate.

All the above presumes that the weather does not intervene. With snow falling, and the prospect of postponements (for which, of course, no points are awarded), the meteorologi*cal forecast may be as impor*tant as the form guide.

NICK SZCZEPANIK

PLAYERS TO WATCH

I Westwater *(Dunfermline)*
A Main (St Johnstone)
J Beresford (Newcastle)
S Watson (Newcastle)
G Neville (Man Utd)
G Pallister (Man Utd)
J Bjorklund *(Rangers)*
D Wetherall (Leeds)
C Burley (Celtic)
A Smith (Dunfermline)
K Gillespie (Newcastle)
P Lambert (Celtic)
G Durie *(Rangers)*
G Britton (Dunfermline)
H Kewell (Leeds)

THIS WEEK'S MOVES

OUT

22501	Patrick Blondeau	Sheffield Wednesday	£2.0m

IN

50904	Viorel Moldovan	Coventry City	£3.0m
42806	Nicola Berti	Tottenham Hotspur	£2.0m

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

☐ YOU MAY transfer as and when you wish according to your team transfer allowance. If a player or manager moves teams during the season, it may affect the composition of your team. You may adjust your team by using the transfer system to avoid missing out on points.

☐ EACH TEAM that was entered at the start of the season was allocated 60 transfers for the season and each team registering after that date had its number of transfers reduced by three per week up to December 13. Teams registered before noon that day *were allocated an extra 20 transfers. Teams registered since then* and from now on will be allocated 20 transfers for the rest of the season.

☐ THE LINE is open now and will remain open for the rest of the season. You may only make transfers by using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need ten digits for your PIN which you will have to tap in (not speak). Follow the simple instructions and tap in the five-digit codes of the players that you are transferring.

☐ YOU MAY make up to four transfers per call but may make as *many calls as you wish to achieve the required amount of transfers.*

☐ TRANSFERS made before 12 noon on any day will become effective for matches starting after that time. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches starting after 12 noon the following day.

☐ *YOUR NEW player only starts to score points for you when his* transfer is registered. The current score of the player transferred out remains part of your team score but he then ceases to score for you.

☐ CALLS COST 50p per minute and calls from a telephone box cost approximately twice as much.

Transfer number: 0891 884 628.
Outside the UK: +44 990 200 538.

[illegible]

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
10101	J Leighton	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0	0	7
10201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	6	13	3	70
10301	*M Bosnich*	*Aston Villa*	3.00	8	8	−1	42
10401	D Watson	Barnsley	1.00	0	8	−8	−19
10501	T Flowers	Blackburn	3.50	0	1	8	50
10601	K Branagan	Bolton	1.50	0	0	−3	42
10701	S Kerr	Celtic	4.00	0	0	0	0
10702	J Gould	Celtic	3.50	0	0	0	50
10801	E De Goey	Chelsea	3.00	0	−9	−5	56
10901	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	0	0	0	17
11001	C Nash	C Palace	0.25	0	0	0	0
11002	K Miller	C Palace	2.00	0	8	2	38
11101	M Poom	Derby County	1.50	0	8	7	68
11201	S Dykstra	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	0	0	16
11301	I Westwater	Dunfermline	1.00	0	0	0	9
11401	N Southall	Everton	2.00	0	0	0	3
11501	G Rousset	Hearts	3.50	0	0	−2	45
11601	C Reid	Hibernian	1.50	0	0	2	3
11602	O Gottskalksson	Hibernian	1.50	0	0	0	4
11701	*D Lekovic*	*Kilmarnock*	1.00	0	0	0	19
11801	N Martyn	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	2	0	66
11901	K Keller	Leicester C	3.00	0	8	7	67
12001	D James	Liverpool	3.50	0	−5	7	72
12101	P Schmeichel	Man Utd	5.00	0	−1	0	97
12201	S Howie	Motherwell	1.00	0	0	0	0
12301	S Given	Newcastle	3.00	0	0	0	17
12401	A Goram	Rangers	5.00	0	0	8	45
12501	K Pressman	Sheffield W	2.00	8	10	−11	14
12702	P Jones	Southampton	1.00	0	0	0	20
12601	A Main	St Johnstone	0.50	0	0	3	39
12801	I Walker	Tottenham	2.50	0	3	0	22
12901	L Miklosko	West Ham	2.00	0	0	0	4
13001	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.50	−2	5	5	62

[illegible]

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
20201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	1	1	0	14
20202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	1	5	0	32
20203	E Petit	Arsenal	3.00	0	1	−1	16
20301	S Staunton	Aston Villa	2.50	5	8	1	18
20302	*A Wright*	Aston Villa	2.50	5	4	1	17
20303	S Grayson	Aston Villa	2.00	5	7	1	21
20304	F Nelson	Aston Villa	2.00	0	−1	−4	3
20401	N Eaden	Barnsley	0.50	0	5	4	1
20402	N Thompson	Barnsley	0.50	0	0	0	−5
20403	D Barnard	Barnsley	1.00	0	9	4	5
20502	J Kenna	Blackburn	3.00	0	0	5	38
20503	P Valery	Blackburn	2.50	0	0	0	8
20601	N Cox	Bolton	2.00	0	1	−1	5
21901	M Whitlow	Bolton	1.50	0	−2	0	5
20602	R Elliott	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	4
20603	J Phillips	Bolton	1.00	0	0	−1	−1
20701	T Boyd	Celtic	3.50	0	0	0	49
20702	T McKinlay	Celtic	3.50	0	0	0	2
20703	J McNamara	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	50
20501	G Le Saux	Chelsea	4.00	0	−1	−2	24
20801	D Petrescu	Chelsea	4.00	0	−4	−2	43
20802	C Babayaro	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	0	20
20803	F Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00	0	0	−1	12
20901	D Burrows	Coventry C	1.00	0	0	−1	7
20903	M Hall	Coventry C	1.00	0	1	0	9
20904	R Nilsson	Coventry C	1.00	0	0	−1	−2
21001	D Gordon	C Palace	1.50	0	5	−1	18
21002	M Edworthy	C Palace	1.50	0	5	−1	4
21004	J Smith	C Palace	1.50	0	5	0	3
21101	C Powell	Derby C	1.50	0	9	4	39
21102	D Yates	Derby C	1.00	0	5	3	14
21103	G Rowett	Derby C	1.50	0	1	4	18
21401	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.50	0	0	0	5
21402	E Barrett	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	4
21403	T Phelan	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	−1
21404	M Ward	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	5
21501	G Locke	Hearts	1.50	0	0	0	7
21701	D Kerr	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	0	−1	13
21801	G Kelly	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	5	−1	24
21802	D Robertson	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	0	−1	22
21902	S Guppy	Leicester C	2.50	0	5	4	44
22001	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	21
22002	J McAteer	Liverpool	3.00	0	−2	3	21
22003	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	11
22101	D Irwin	Man Utd	4.00	0	−2	0	23
22102	G Neville	Man Utd	3.50	0	−1	0	50
22103	P Neville	Man Utd	3.50	0	0	0	38
22301	S Watson	Newcastle	3.00	0	5	1	24
22302	W Barton	Newcastle	2.00	0	0	0	12
22303	J Beresford	Newcastle	2.00	0	4	1	17
22304	S Pearce	Newcastle	3.00	0	5	1	13
22401	A Cleland	Rangers	3.00	0	0	9	37
22402	S Stensaas	Rangers	3.00	0	0	0	26
22501	P Blondeau	Sheffield W	2.00	0	0	0	−15
22502	I Nolan	Sheffield W	2.00	5	5	6	−1
22701	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	0	−1	0	20
22702	F Benali	Southampton	0.75	0	−2	0	4
22801	C Wilson	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	5	7
22802	J Edinburgh	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	0	−9
22803	S Carr	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	5	2
22901	J Dicks	West Ham	3.00	0	0	0	0
22902	A Impey	West Ham	1.50	0	0	0	6
22903	T Breacker	West Ham	2.00	0	1	0	2
23001	B Thatcher	Wimbledon	2.00	0	0	0	13
23002	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	2.00	0	4	4	18
23003	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.00	0	4	4	10

[illegible]

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
30101	B O'Neil	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0	0	−13
30201	T Adams	Arsenal	3.00	0	0	0	13
30202	M Keown	Arsenal	3.00	1	5	0	7
30203	G Grimandi	Arsenal	2.00	1	5	0	18
30204	S Bould	Arsenal	3.00	1	5	0	16
30301	G Southgate	Aston Villa	3.00	0	−1	0	10
30302	U Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00	4	2	0	21
30401	A De Zeeuw	Barnsley	1.00	0	4	0	−12
30402	A Moses	Barnsley	0.50	0	5	0	−14
30403	M Appleby	Barnsley	0.50	0	0	0	−10
30502	C Hendry	Blackburn	3.00	0	0	5	35
30504	S Henchoz	Blackburn	2.50	0	0	4	25
30505	T Pedersen	Blackburn	2.00	0	0	0	2
30601	G Taggart	Bolton	1.50	0	0	0	5
30602	G Bergsson	Bolton	1.00	0	0	0	20
30603	C Fairclough	Bolton	1.00	0	0	0	−5
30604	M Fish	Bolton	1.50	0	0	−1	10
30701	E Annoni	Celtic	1.50	0	0	0	17
30702	M MacKay	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	2
30703	A Stubbs	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	48
30704	M Rieper	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	34
30801	*F Leboeuf*	Chelsea	3.00	0	−5	−2	33
30802	M Duberry	Chelsea	3.00	0	−4	−3	17
30803	S Clarke	Chelsea	2.50	0	−4	−2	8
30804	B Lambourde	Chelsea	2.50	0	0	−3	−3
30901	L Daish	Coventry C	1.50	0	0	0	0
30902	R Shaw	Coventry C	1.50	0	1	0	12
30903	P Williams	Coventry C	1.50	0	0	−4	−11
31001	A Roberts	C Palace	1.50	0	5	0	17
31002	A Linighan	C Palace	0.75	0	5	0	11
31003	D Tuttle	C Palace	0.75	0	0	0	0
31004	H Hreidarsson	C Palace	1.00	0	5	−1	2
31101	I Stimac	Derby C	2.50	0	5	3	27
31102	J Laursen	Derby C	1.50	0	0	4	19
31201	S Pressley	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	0	0	14
31301	G Shields	Dunfermline	1.50	0	0	0	−3
31401	S Bilic	Everton	2.50	0	0	1	−18
31402	D Watson	Everton	2.00	0	0	0	14
31404	C Tiler	Everton	1.50	0	0	1	12
31501	D Weir	Hearts	2.00	0	0	−1	24
31601	J Hughes	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	0	−13
31801	D Wetherall	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	5	−1	36
31802	G Halle	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	5	−1	24
31803	R Molenaar	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	5	1	17
31804	L Radebe	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	9	−1	22
31901	M Elliott	Leicester C	3.50	0	5	3	52
31902	*P Kaamark*	*Leicester C*	2.00	0	5	4	39
31903	S Walsh	Leicester C	2.50	0	0	4	35
31904	S Prior	Leicester C	2.00	0	5	0	11
32001	M Wright	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	5
32002	D Matteo	Liverpool	3.00	0	−2	4	30
32003	B Kvarme	Liverpool	3.00	0	−1	0	31
30501	H Berg	Man Utd	3.50	0	0	0	33
32101	D May	Man Utd	3.50	0	0	0	0
32102	G Pallister	Man Utd	3.50	0	−1	0	44
32301	P Albert	Newcastle	2.50	0	0	0	9
32302	D Peacock	Newcastle	3.00	0	4	1	10
32303	S Howey	Newcastle	2.00	0	0	0	1
32304	A Pistone	Newcastle	3.00	0	4	1	14
32401	S Porrini	Rangers	3.50	0	0	5	42
32402	J Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50	0	0	5	39
32403	L Amoruso	Rangers	3.50	0	0	0	0
32404	R Gough	Rangers	4.00	0	0	5	12
32501	D Walker	Sheffield W	2.00	5	5	6	7
32502	J Newsome	Sheffield W	2.00	5	5	10	15
32503	*P Atherton*	*Sheffield W*	2.00	5	5	6	12
32701	R Dryden	Southampton	1.00	0	0	0	−2
32702	C Lundekvam	Southampton	1.00	0	0	0	6
32704	K Monkou	Southampton	1.00	0	−1	0	15
32601	S McCluskey	St Johnstone	0.50	0	0	0	10
32801	S Campbell	Tottenham	2.50	0	1	5	7
32802	J Scales	Tottenham	2.50	0	0	0	1
32803	R Vega	Tottenham	2.00	0	1	4	7
32804	C Calderwood	Tottenham	2.00	0	5	2	13
32901	R Ferdinand	West Ham	2.50	0	0	0	11
32902	R Hall	West Ham	2.00	0	0	0	0
31403	D Unsworth	West Ham	2.00	0	1	0	15
32903	S Potts	West Ham	1.50	0	1	−1	9
32904	I Pearce	West Ham	2.00	0	1	0	6
33001	C Perry	Wimbledon	2.50	0	4	4	20
33002	D Blackwell	Wimbledon	2.50	−1	−1	2	17

[illegible]

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
40101	E Jess	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0	0	34
40102	P Bernard	Aberdeen	2.00	0	0	0	15
40201	M Overmars	Arsenal	5.50	3	5	3	58
40202	P Vieira	Arsenal	3.50	2	4	−1	32
40203	S Hughes	Arsenal	2.00	2	2	2	6
40204	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.50	2	3	2	43
40205	D Platt	Arsenal	1.50	0	0	0	24
40301	M Draper	Aston Villa	3.00	3	4	4	42
40302	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50	3	3	3	36
40401	N Redfearn	Barnsley	3.00	0	3	3	54
40402	E Tinkler	Barnsley	2.00	0	3	3	31
40403	D Sheridan	Barnsley	1.00	0	2	3	22
40404	M Bullock	Barnsley	0.50	0	1	0	19
40501	J Wilcox	Blackburn	3.00	0	1	3	30
40502	B McKinlay	Blackburn	3.00	0	0	1	26
40503	T Sherwood	Blackburn	3.00	0	5	6	50
40504	G Flitcroft	Blackburn	3.00	0	2	2	30
40601	A Thompson	Bolton	2.50	0	0	0	31
40602	S Sellars	Bolton	2.00	0	0	1	26
40603	P Frandsen	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	32
40604	M Johansen	Bolton	2.00	0	0	0	5

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
40605	J Pollock	Bolton	2.00	0	1	1	33
40701	A Thom	Celtic	4.50	0	0	0	26
40702	*P O'Donnell*	*Celtic*	3.00	0	0	0	7
42503	R Blinker	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	22
40704	C Burley	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	54
40705	P Lambert	Celtic	3.00	0	0	0	24
40801	D Wise	Chelsea	3.50	0	0	0	35
40802	R Di Matteo	Chelsea	4.00	0	0	0	40
40803	E Newton	Chelsea	1.50	0	0	1	10
40804	G Poyet	Chelsea	3.00	0	0	0	28
40901	G McAllister	Coventry C	2.50	0	0	0	20
40902	T Soltvedt	Coventry C	1.50	0	0	1	24
40903	J Salako	Coventry C	1.50	0	0	0	15
40904	P Telfer	Coventry C	1.50	0	4	0	16
41002	S Rodger	C Palace	1.00	0	3	0	29
41003	D Pitcher	C Palace	0.25	0	0	0	0
41004	P Warhurst	C Palace	1.50	0	3	0	34
41005	A Lombardo	C Palace	3.00	0	0	0	22
41102	S Eranio	Derby C	3.50	0	0	0	30
41103	D Powell	Derby C	1.50	0	2	0	14
41104	C Dailly	Derby C	1.50	0	0	0	19
41105	R Van Der Laan	Derby C	1.00	0	0	0	8
41106	J Hunt	Derby C	1.00	0	0	1	16
41201	R Winters	Dundee Utd	3.50	0	0	0	45
41301	A Smith	Dunfermline	3.50	0	0	0	42
41401	G Speed	Everton	3.50	0	0	5	50
41402	J Parkinson	Everton	1.50	0	0	0	0
41403	*G Farrelly*	*Everton*	1.50	0	1	1	17
41404	D Williamson	Everton	2.00	0	0	0	19
41405	J Oster	Everton	2.50	0	−1	0	5
41501	N McCann	Hearts	3.50	0	0	6	55
41601	C Jackson	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	0	9
41602	B Lavety	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	0	20
41701	*J McIntyre*	*Kilmarnock*	2.00	0	0	0	0
41001	D Hopkin	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	0	1	29
41801	L Bowyer	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	3	0	21
41802	A Haaland	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	0	0	33
41803	L Sharpe	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	0	0	0
41804	B Ribeiro	Leeds Utd	2.50	0	0	1	15
41901	G Parker	Leicester C	2.00	0	6	2	23
41902	N Lennon	Leicester C	2.00	0	3	2	41
41903	M Izzet	Leicester C	2.00	0	2	2	43
41904	S Taylor	Leicester C	1.50	0	0	0	0
42001	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.00	0	1	2	68
42002	O Leonhardsen	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	2	34
42003	M Thomas	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	14
42004	J Redknapp	Liverpool	3.00	0	4	2	38
42006	P Ince	Liverpool	4.00	0	0	2	30
42101	D Beckham	Man Utd	8.00	0	8	0	63
42102	R Giggs	Man Utd	7.00	0	2	0	58
42103	R Keane	Man Utd	5.00	0	0	0	23
42104	N Butt	Man Utd	4.00	0	2	0	47
42105	A Cole	*Man Utd*	7.00	0	8	0	84
42201	B Davies	Motherwell	2.00	0	0	0	9
42301	R Lee	Newcastle	5.00	0	2	2	31
42302	K Gillespie	Newcastle	3.50	0	3	2	39
42303	D Batty	Newcastle	2.50	0	0	0	18
42005	J Barnes	Newcastle	3.00	0	3	5	48
42401	*B Laudrup*	Rangers	6.50	0	0	0	38
42402	P Gascoigne	Rangers	6.00	0	0	3	27
42403	J Thern	Rangers	3.00	0	0	3	23
42404	J Albertz	Rangers	4.00	0	0	3	40
42501	B Carbone	Sheffield W	3.00	0	1	0	38
42701	J Magilton	Sheffield W	2.00	0	0	1	24
42502	M Pembridge	Sheffield W	2.00	3	4	4	32
42504	G Hyde	Sheffield W	1.00	3	3	4	11
42505	G Whittingham	Sheffield W	1.50	0	0	1	13
42702	R Slater	Southampton	0.75	0	0	0	7
42704	K Richardson	Southampton	0.50	0	1	0	27
42705	C Palmer	Southampton	2.00	0	0	0	25
42706	M Oakley	Southampton	1.50	0	1	0	16
42601	A Sekerlioglu	St Johnstone	0.75	0	0	0	11
42801	A Sinton	Tottenham	3.00	0	0	3	21
42802	D Anderton	Tottenham	3.00	0	0	0	7
42803	R Fox	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	3	29
42804	D Howells	Tottenham	2.00	0	0	1	17
42805	D Ginola	Tottenham	3.00	0	1	2	41
42901	E Berkovic	West Ham	2.50	0	2	1	52
42902	S Lomas	West Ham	2.50	0	0	0	29
42903	J Moncur	West Ham	2.00	0	0	0	17
42905	F Lampard	West Ham	2.50	0	0	1	1
43001	R Earle	Wimbledon	4.00	2	4	4	38
43002	N Ardley	Wimbledon	2.00	2	4	4	34
43003	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	1	1	3	23
42904	M Hughes	Wimbledon	2.00	7	9	9	42
43004	C Hughes	Wimbledon	1.50	0	1	0	17

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
50101	B Dodds	Aberdeen	4.00	0	0	0	32
50201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	2	2	2	56
50202	*D Bergkamp*	*Arsenal*	8.50	4	5	7	60
50301	D Yorke	Aston Villa	6.00	2	2	3	29
50302	S Collymore	Aston Villa	5.00	2	3	3	32
50303	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.00	4	5	5	25
50401	G Hristov	Barnsley	1.50	0	2	0	17
50402	J Hendrie	Barnsley	1.50	0	0	0	11
51102	A Ward	Barnsley	2.00	0	2	4	33
50403	C Marcelle	Barnsley	1.00	0	2	2	12
50501	K Gallacher	Blackburn	5.50	0	6	18	73
50502	M Dahlin	Blackburn	4.00	0	0	0	12
50503	C Sutton	Blackburn	6.00	0	2	2	65
50602	N Blake	Bolton	3.50	0	1	3	36
50603	P Beardsley	Bolton	2.00	0	0	1	17
53003	D Holdsworth	Bolton	3.00	0	0	0	13
51601	D Jackson	Celtic	4.00	0	0	0	13
50703	T Johnson	Celtic	2.50	0	0	0	0
50704	S Donnelly	Celtic	4.50	0	0	0	18
50705	H Larsson	Celtic	4.50	0	0	0	39
50801	G Zola	Chelsea	7.00	0	1	0	52
50802	M Hughes	Chelsea	5.00	0	0	0	26
50901	D Dublin	Coventry C	5.00	0	4	3	51
50902	D Huckerby	Coventry C	2.50	0	4	1	37
50903	N Whelan	Coventry C	2.00	0	1	2	12
51001	N Shipperley	C Palace	1.50	0	0	0	28
51003	B Dyer	C Palace	2.00	0	2	1	27
51004	M Padovano	C Palace	2.50	0	0	0	4
51101	D Sturridge	Derby C	4.00	0	0	0	32
51103	F Baiano	Derby C	4.50	0	4	1	54
51104	D Burton	Derby C	1.50	0	2	1	11
51105	P Wanchope	Derby C	3.50	0	2	1	18
51201	A McLaren	Dundee Utd	3.00	0	0	0	24
51202	K Olofsson	*Dundee Utd*	4.00	0	0	0	46
51301	G Britton	Dunfermline	2.00	0	0	0	10
51401	D Ferguson	Everton	4.00	0	0	4	42
51402	N Barmby	Everton	3.00	0	1	2	22
51404	D Cadamarteri	Everton	2.50	0	1	0	9
51501	J Robertson	Hearts	3.50	0	0	0	26
51502	*J Hamilton*	*Hearts*	3.00	0	0	5	14
51602	S Crawford	Hibernian	3.00	0	0	1	14
51701	P Wright	Kilmarnock	5.00	0	0	3	35
51702	A Mitchell	Kilmarnock	2.50	0	0	1	26
51801	J Hasselbaink	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	4	1	36
51803	R Wallace	Leeds Utd	3.50	0	2	1	48
51804	*H Kewell*	Leeds Utd	2.00	0	6	1	10
51901	S Claridge	Leicester C	2.50	0	0	0	14
51902	E Heskey	Leicester C	4.50	0	2	1	27
51903	I Marshall	Leicester C	2.50	0	4	1	34
51904	G Fenton	Leicester C	2.00	0	1	0	15
52001	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	0	1	1	37
52002	P Berger	Liverpool	3.00	0	0	0	29
52003	K Riedle	Liverpool	4.50	0	1	0	23
52004	M Owen	Liverpool	4.50	0	0	1	21
52101	O Solskjaer	Man Utd	7.50	0	1	0	29
52102	T Sheringham	Man Utd	7.00	0	3	0	45
52103	P Scholes	Man Utd	6.00	0	1	0	32
52201	O Coyle	Motherwell	3.00	0	0	0	35
52202	T Coyne	Motherwell	3.00	0	0	1	33
52301	A Shearer	Newcastle	10.00	0	0	1	1
52303	F Asprilla	Newcastle	6.00	0	2	0	17
52304	J Tomasson	Newcastle	2.00	0	0	2	14
52401	M Negri	Rangers	8.50	0	0	0	113
52402	S Rozental	Rangers	3.50	0	0	0	0
52403	G Durie	Rangers	3.00	0	0	1	31
52501	A Booth	Sheffield W	3.00	2	3	6	42
50702	P Di Canio	Sheffield W	3.00	−2	−1	0	37
52503	R Humphreys	Sheffield W	2.00	1	1	2	6
52701	M Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00	0	1	0	22
52502	D Hirst	Southampton	2.50	0	1	0	30
52702	E Ostenstad	Southampton	4.00	0	0	0	14
52704	K Davies	Southampton	3.50	0	1	0	11
52601	G O'Boyle	St Johnstone	1.50	0	0	5	33
52602	R Grant	St Johnstone	1.00	0	0	3	21
52801	S Iversen	Tottenham	3.50	0	0	0	13
52302	L Ferdinand	Tottenham	7.50	0	0	0	23
52802	*C Armstrong*	*Tottenham*	3.50	0	0	0	13
52803	J Domingues	Tottenham	3.00	0	1	1	3
52804	J Klinsmann	Tottenham	6.00	0	2	4	6
52901	J Hartson	West Ham	4.50	0	4	0	59
52902	P Kitson	West Ham	3.00	0	2	0	24
52903	I Dowie	West Ham	1.50	0	0	1	10
53001	*M Gayle*	Wimbledon	4.00	4	4	5	24
53002	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	4.00	1	1	1	23
53004	C Cort	Wimbledon	3.00	2	3	2	10

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	£	FA(w)	FA	Lg(w)	Tot
60102	A Miller	Aberdeen	1.50	0	0	0	5
60201	A Wenger	Arsenal	5.00	3	4	4	38
60301	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	3	4	2	21
60401	D Wilson	Barnsley	0.50	0	3	3	10
60501	R Hodgson	Blackburn	3.50	0	3	3	44
60601	C Todd	Bolton	1.50	0	−1	−1	12
60701	W Jansen	Celtic	4.00	0	0	0	38
60801	R Gullit	Chelsea	3.50	0	−1	−1	34
60901	G Strachan	Coventry C	1.00	0	3	1	18
61001	S Coppell	C Palace	0.75	0	3	−1	16
61101	J Smith	Derby C	2.50	0	3	1	32
61201	T McLean	Dundee Utd	2.00	0	0	0	16
61301	B Paton	Dunfermline	1.00	0	0	0	12
61401	H Kendall	Everton	2.00	0	−1	3	14
61501	*J Jefferies*	Hearts	3.50	0	0	4	41
61601	J Duffy	Hibernian	2.00	0	0	−1	3
61701	B Williamson	Kilmarnock	1.00	0	0	1	21
61801	G Graham	Leeds Utd	3.00	0	3	−1	30
61901	M O'Neill	Leicester C	2.50	0	3	1	26
62001	R Evans	Liverpool	3.00	0	−1	1	35
62101	A Ferguson	Man Utd	5.00	0	3	0	49
62201	A McLeish	Motherwell	1.00	0	0	−1	5
62301	K Dalglish	Newcastle	4.00	0	3	3	23
62401	W Smith	Rangers	5.00	0	0	3	43
62502	R Atkinson	Sheffield W	1.50	3	4	6	19
62701	D Jones	Southampton	0.50	0	−1	0	13
62601	P Sturrock	St Johnstone	0.50	0	0	2	19
62802	C Gross	Tottenham	2.00	0	3	3	9
62901	H Redknapp	West Ham	2.00	0	3	−1	26
63001	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	2.00	3	4	4	20

هكذا من الأصل

NEWS

Sectarian warfare threat to Ulster

■ Northern Ireland faced a return to full-scale sectarian warfare last night after republican terrorists shot a prominent South Belfast loyalist in retaliation for the killings of four Catholics over the past three weeks.

The murder came as Tony Blair and Gerry Adams held a second Downing Street meeting to discuss the Anglo-Irish peace initiative tabled last week. Mr Adams agreed with Mr Blair that the spate of killings was an attempt to derail the peace process that must not be allowed to succeed..... Page 1

Architectural job for Prince

■ The Prince of Wales has been invited by Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, to play a role in the design of the new Scottish parliament, reviving the tradition of placing a royal stamp on a significant new public building ..... Page 1

Caveat emptor

A man who bought a £1.7m home in a fashionable Chelsea square was terrorised by a woman who fell in love with the property and claimed to be its real owner, a court heard ..... Page 3

Green belt building

Some of the first big releases of green belt land are being lined up across the country as councils try to meet government forecasts that claim England needs 4.4 million new homes ..... Page 4

Surgery for sky-diver

Alex Ritchie, who was injured in a sky-diving accident as he prepared for Richard Branson's latest attempt to fly round the world by balloon, underwent an emergency operation ..... Page 5

Writer sues

Rupert Allason, the spy writer, took on his 17th libel action when he sued a television programme for calling him a "conniving little shit" ..... Page 6

Hostage feared dead

The parents of Christopher Howes, a mine clearance expert taken hostage in Cambodia two years ago, have been told that he is probably dead..... Page 7

Legal offensive

The legal profession is attacking government plans to make lawyers pay tax on work in progress, regardless of whether they have been paid for it or not..... Page 8

Victim's £200,000

George Lewis, 32, who spent more than five years in jail for offences he did not commit, won £200,000 in the latest award linked to a disbanded serious crime squad ..... Page 9

Titanic triumph

Titanic, the $200 million epic, took four awards at the Golden Globes including Best Film for the director, James Cameron, who asked: "Does this prove that size does matter?"..... Page 11

Chinese concession

The Chinese leadership is willing to accept a visit from Mary Robinson, the UN High Commissioner, after years of criticism and pressure from the West over their human rights record..... Page 12

Saddam hits back

The UN chief arms inspector was met by demonstrators when he arrived in Baghdad with a tough message for President Saddam Hussein ..... Pages 13, 19

Harare looting

President Mugabe ordered millers to abandon a 21 per cent rise in the price of maize meal after police fired on looters in Harare..... Pages 14, 19

Kohl showdown

An attack by the Social Democrat Opposition on Helmut Kohl's Government marked the start of what may be Germany's longest election campaign ..... Page 15

Hymn for the millennium

■ St Paul's Cathedral launched a £2,000 competition to write a "hymn for the millennium" as part of the church's fightback against secularisation of the nation's millennium plans. It must be a hymn, not a song, with a traditional metrical and rhyming structure and be explicitly Christian, although it need not incoporate the word millennium..... Page 1



Hedley Swain, who is the curator of the Museum of London's Saxons at the Opera exhibition of implements found on the site of the Royal Opera House, holding a 7th-9th century Saxon bone comb with iron rivets yesterday

Wage fears: The pound climbed back above DM3.00 as fears grew that rising wage demands would force the Bank of England to increase interest rates by as much as half a point..... Page 27

Fleming shake-up: Colette Bowe, former chief executive of the Personal Investment Authority, is to join the independent merchant bank Robert Fleming..... Page 27

Bid war: America's Hercules Inc lifted its bid for Allied Colloids twice in the same day hoping to thwart Ciba Speciality Chemicals, of Switzerland..... Page 27

Markets: The FTSE 100 rose 105 to 5,276.6. The pound rose 1.46 pfennig to DM3.0051 but fell .02 cents to $1.6363. The pound index rose to 105.5 from 105.1..... Page 30

Football: Arsenal, who are looking at ways of increasing their crowd capacity, are considering playing home matches at the refurbished Wembley Stadium ..... Page 52

Tennis: Sibling rivalry will reach its zenith at the Australian Open in Melbourne when Venus Williams confronts her younger sister, Serena, in the singles..... Page 52

Boxing: Lennox Lewis's hopes of meeting Evander Holyfield for the undisputed world heavyweight championship this year are still very much alive, according to the promoter Don King..... Page 52

Rugby union: Philippe Sella, the world's most capped international player, who is now with Saracens, is to retire at the end of this season..... Page 49

England's finest: The Royal Academy has trawled the forgotten corners of our regional museums and galleries for its new show, *Art Treasures of England*..... Page 35

Regions' loss: The RA exhibition is great, says the former chairman of the Yorkshire Arts Association — but if only the regions could afford their own shows..... Page 35

French dressing: In her new movie Carole Bouquet, the chic 40-year-old actress and face of Chanel, plays a Resistance heroine — a proper woman's part, as she points out..... Page 36

Biting back: After an attack on the poor state of modern opera by his boss, the Arts Editor, Rodney Milnes puts his job on the line by leaping to its defence..... Page 37

Baby worries: Why does infertility afflict humanity? In the second extract from their book *Baby Wars*, Dr. Robin Baker and Elizabeth Oram explain..... Page 16

Stormy waters: In the third extract from Ted Hughes's *Birthday Letters*, the poet tells how his marriage to Sylvia Plath started to crack under the strain of crossing the Atlantic and the birth of their daughter..... Page 17

Big gap: A government scheme designed to bridge the skills gap among smaller companies appears to be a flop..... Page 23

New awards: As Justice, the human rights organisation, celebrates its 40th anniversary, it announces two new awards, in conjunction with *The Times*..... Page 39

On song: "Shall we start lunch with a song?" Valerie Grove interviews Harvey McGregor, QC, exuberant author of *McGregor on Damages*..... Page 41

"Paula Jones syndrome" means the world's most powerful head of state is treated like a vulgar sex maniac in France, the ladies who receive amorous propositions from men in power accept them often, complain never and moreover take pride in them — *France-Soir*



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ INTERFACE
On Her Majesty's surfing: how the Royal Family has gone online to keep up to date with its subjects

■ CREME
Jobs galore in the 16-page supplement for secretaries and PAs

Preview: Brian Walden casts doubt on the greatness of Alexander in *Walden on Heroes* (BBC2, 7.30). **Review:** Joe Joseph says mechanical diggers are a key electioneering tool for politicians. *Classic Plant* (Channel 4)..... Pages 50, 51

Downing Street frost

There has been loose talk from Gordon Brown's supporters, reflected in his biography, that he is "Prime Minister" to Mr Blair's "President". The voters decided who should be Prime Minister last May. The Chancellor would be wise to respect them..... Page 19

To Baghdad, again

Saddam appears to believe Iraq cannot be compelled to abide by its legal obligations. Because force is the only language he speaks, force may have to be used..... Page 19

The price of power

Zimbabwe will not fare better without fundamental reform. Few, even in Mr Mugabe's Zanu-PF party, are fooled by the constant attempts to blame white farmers..... Page 19

LIBBY PURVES

Frieda Hughes's paintings have a brave ebullient belief in resurgent life which is hers alone. This week old griefs and old lives and old hatreds are exorcised and a new generation can step forward, with its own face on..... Page 18

TONY BENN

There are some parallels with the 1930s which we would do well to remember now, particularly since the IMF is trying to impose 1931-style cuts on the ailing "tiger" economies, which bode ill for our economy too..... Page 18

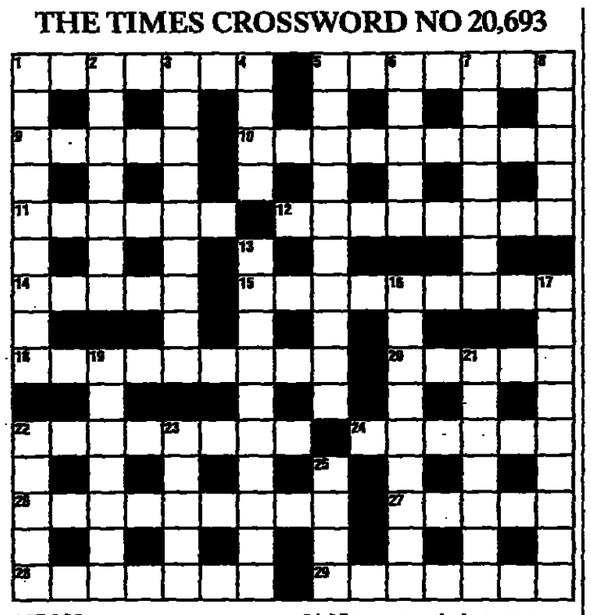
PETER RIDDELL

Tony Blair and Gordon Brown need each other, and they know it. The success of the Government depends upon their close working relationship..... Page 10

Peter Diamand, artistic director of the Edinburgh Festival; Johnny Coles, jazz trumpeter; Sir Donald Murray, diplomat..... Page 21

Pension and benefits proposals; Oxford's "snub" to Blair; Diana's memorial garden; Sunday schools; Irish peace process..... Page 19

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,693



ACROSS
1 Arrive bearing container of wine and join in (7).
5 Not far from Oxford place? Lack maturity needed (7).
9 Mounted group producing disturbance (5).
10 In confusion, didn't I save nameless extras? (9).
11 He will clothe part of coat with gold (6).
12 Be my guest and experience informality (4,4).
14 Take female to church for this reason (5).
15 Was someone willing to provide this sort of mortgage? (9).
18 In cutting way, did something rude? Lady takes no notice (9).
20 Ideal environment in which artist's work is situated (5).
22 Takes back what is written about pamphlets (8).
24 Militant groups putting sign outside motorway (6).
26 Like some spineless creatures, mostly vile people with convictions (9).
27 Part of ship men dock (5).
28 Casual work can be attractive — but not the second time (7).
29 Old meet outside terminus for public occasion (4,3).

DOWN
1 Areas for playing trendy pursuit with passion (9).
2 Young lady one takes on expedition (7).
3 At home in dry surroundings, nomad is self-centred (9).
4 It was used to swear in odd parts of England (4).
5 Arrival times for woeful children (10).
6 You are reported missing from wild part of Africa (5).
7 Notice lines going in the opposite direction (7).
8 Follow directions, girl! (5).
13 Concentrated after van becomes hard to control (10).
16 Whatever the result, refuse to be drawn? (3,2,4).
17 Man and woman joined in religious belief (9).
19 Meanwhile one enters during school time (7).
21 Church covers poor boy suffering from cold (7).
22 Join together what's split? Exactly! (5).
23 Former politician enters excellent defence plea (5).
25 Before noon, morning's first two rounds (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,692

B	E	B	O	P		A	U	T	O	M	A	T	I	C
U	C	R	E		C	O	A		T			O		R
T	O	R	M	E	N	T	O	R		D	U	M	M	Y
T		S		E		I		P	E		B		P	
E	A	T	O	N	E	S	H	E	A	R	T	O	U	T
R		A		I		D		A		U				
C	A	L	O	R	I	E		C	U	T	C	R	O	P
U			E				O				R			
P	E	C	K	I	S	H		P	O	R	T	I	C	O
		A		N		A		R			N		V	
F	L	Y	O	F	F	T	H	E	H	A	N	D	L	E
U		E		O		C		V		L		R		N
D	I	N	A	R		H	E	A	D	B	O	A	R	D
Q		N		C	E		I		U		W		E	
E	L	E	M	E	N	T	A	L		M	I	N	O	R

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Sunrise and Sunset

Sun rises: 7.55 am	Sun sets: 4.29 pm
Moon sets: 11.10 am	Moon rises

Last quarter today
London 4.29 pm to 7.54 am
Bristol 4.39 pm to 8.03 am
Edinburgh 4.21 pm to 8.26 am
Manchester 4.29 pm to 8.11 am
Penzance 4.56 pm to 8.10 am

Weather

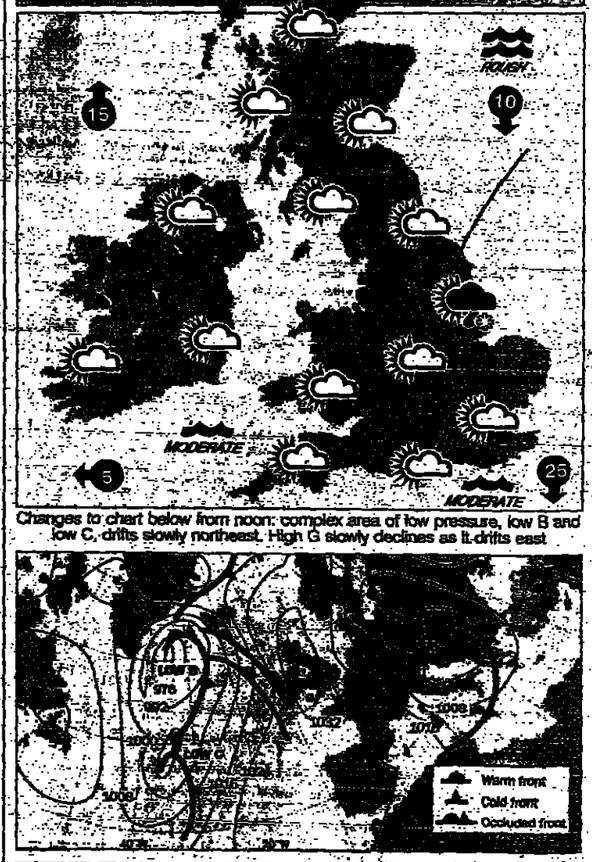
☐ **General:** most of England and Wales will have a mainly sunny but very cold day with a sharp frost early and late. Eastern England will have scattered light snow showers at first. Scotland and Northern Ireland will also be very cold with the overnight frost lasting all day in country areas.
☐ **London, SE, NE, E England, E Anglia:** cold with the chance of some snow showers, especially along the coasts. Cold N wind. Max 4C (39F).
☐ **Cent S, SW England, Channel Isles:** chilly but dry with plentiful sunshine after a frosty start. Light north wind. Max 7C (45F).
☐ **E&W Midlands, S&N Wales, NW, Cent N England, Lake Dist, IoM:** frosty start, then long sunny periods. Light winds. Max 4C (39F).
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW, NE Scotland, Glasgow, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, Orkney, Shetland:** very cold but fine. Light winds. Max 3C (37F).
☐ **Argyll, N W Scotland:** sunny spells after frost, cloudy later. Freshening S to SE wind. Max 5C (41F).
☐ **N Ireland:** chilly but plenty of sunshine, cloudy later. Freshening S to SE wind. Max 5C (41F).
☐ **Republic of Ireland:** sunny start, then cloud and rain will spread from west. Fresh S wind. Max 5C (41F).
☐ **Outlook:** cold and frosty weather should continue in southern and eastern England, but elsewhere it will become less cold with some light rain.

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; f=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.3	0.39	1	34	sn	Kintyre	0.5	0.41	3	37	r
Anglesey	4.1	0.15	5	41	f	Leeds	2.6	0.03	3	37	sn
Aspatria	4.7	0.01	2	36	s	Lerwick	1.4	0.07	1	34	sn
Aviemore	0.8	0.15	-1	30	sn	Leuchars	2.2	0.29	1	34	sn
Belfast	6.9	0.02	4	39	s	Littlehmpton	0.5	0.02	9	48	sn
Birmingham	1.5	0.13	4	39	s	London	0.1	0.08	8	43	c
Bognor R	2.0	0.03	7	45	sh	Lowestoft	1.8	0.39	5	41	sn
Bournem'th	1.6	0.03	8	46	sh	Manchester	2.1	0.14	5	41	sn
Bristol	1.3	0.05	7	45	r	Margate	1.1	0.05	7	45	r
Buxton	2.1	0.24	1	34	s	Minehead	1.2	0.42	7	45	r
Cardiff	2.1	0.06	7	45	r	Morecambe	3.5	0.01	4	39	sn
Clacton	1.5	0.06	6	43	c	Newcastle	2.8	0.24	3	37	sn
Cleethorpes	3.6	0.35	5	41	sn	Newquay	2.4	0.04	10	50	c
Cromer	1.1	0.35	5	41	sn	Norwich	1.9	0.33	5	41	sn
Eastbourne	0.2	0.01	8	46	s	Oxford	0.7	0.05	3	37	sn
Edinburgh	1.3	0.12	3	37	sn	Penzance	X	0.15	12	54	sh
Eskdalemuir	3.8	0.18	0	32	sn	Prestatyn	X	0.18	4	39	sh
Exmouth	1.0	0.19	9	48	c	Ross-o-wye	X	0.03	5	41	sn
Falmouth	3.3	0.05	10	50	sh	Scarboro'	2.3	0.43	4	39	r
Fleetguard	2.1	0.11	5	41	b	Shrewsbury	3.0	0.08	4	39	sn
Folkestone	1.3	0.07	7	45	c	Skegness	3.5	0.37	5	41	r
Glasgow	6.5	0.01	4	39	s	Southend	1.2	0.05	X	X	b
Guernsey	5.4	0.22	X	X	sh	Southport	X	0.01	4	39	s
Hastings	0.6	0.01	7	45	c	Southsea	1.5	0.01	X	X	sh
Herne Bay	1.0	0.04	6	43	du	Stornoway	1.4	0.07	1	34	sn
Hove	1.1	0.20	X	X	du	Tenby	3.9	0.12	7	45	b
Hunstanton	X	0.32	6	43	sl	Thso	3.7	0.04	3	37	r
Isle-of-Man	5.6	0.02	4	39	s	Torquay	2.0	0.08	11	52	b
Isle-of-Wight	2.5	0.01	7	45	s	Tynemouth	X	0.19	5	41	sn
Jersey	3.1	0.34	11	52	sh	Weymouth	1.0	0.05	9	48	sh

Ajaccio	15	59	s	Corfu	16	61	s	Malaga	12	63	s	Salzburg	5	41	s
Alicante	17	63	s	G'phagn	5	41	c	Malta	15	59	s	Santiago	20	68	s
Amst'dam	10	50	f	Dublin	8	43	c	Melb'rne	19	66	f	Seoul	6	21	s
Algiers	15	59	s	Dubrovnik	X	X		Mexico C	13	55	d	Sing'por	33	91	f
Amst'dam	5	41	r	Faro	15	59	s	Miami	21	70	s	St Lucia	1	34	c
Athens	14	57	f	Florence	13	55	s	Milan	9	48	s	Straslb'g	3	37	f
B Aires	24	75	s	Frankfurt	3	37	s	Montreal	-6	23	s	Sydney	31	88	s
Bahrain	17	63	s	Funchal	16	61	c	Moscow	-3	27	sn	Tangier	16	61	s
Bangkok	33	91	s	Geneva	4	39	c	Munich	5	41	s	Tel Aviv	16	61	f
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	16	61	s	N Delhi	15	59	s	Tenerife	21	70	f
Barcelona	14	57	f	Helsinki	1	34	d	N York	1	34	sn	Tokyo	6	43	r
Beijing	-8	18	s	Hong K	16	61	f	Nairobi	22	72	f	Toronto	-2	28	sn
Beirut	15	59	f	Innsbruck	3	37	s	Naples	16	59	s	Tunis	15	59	f
Belgrade	7	45	f	Istanbul	10	50	f	Nice	12	54	s	Valencia	16	64	s
Berlin	5	41	c	Jeddah	27	81	s	Oslo	-1	30	s	Vancouver	9	48	r
Bermuda	21	70	f	Jo'burg	27	81	f	Paris	7	45	r	Venice	9	48	s
Biarritz	15	59	c	L Angeles	15	59	s	Perth	28	82	s	Vienna	7	45	s
Borde'x	11	52	r	L Palmas	21	70	c	Prague	5	41	s	Warsaw	4	39	c
Brussels	4	39	r	Le Toquet	8	46	f	Reykjavik	-13	9	s	Wash'ton	5	41	c
Budapst	7	45	s	Lisbon	16	61	c	Rhodes	16	61	f	Wel'ngton	20	68	s
Cairo	18	64	s	Locarno	6	43	c	Rio de J	34	93	f	Zurich	1	34	c
Cape Tn	24	75	f	Luxembg	3	37	f	Riyadh	19	66	s				
Ch'church	21	70	X	Lyon	20	68	s	Rome	14	57	s				
Chicago	-7	19	f	Madrid	7	45	f	S Fr'sco	16	61	s				
Cologne	5	41	f	Majorca	16	61	f	S Paulo	X	X					

Temperatures at midday local time on Sunday. X = not available



Changes to chart below from noon: complex area of low pressure, low B and low C, drifts slowly northeast. High G slowly declines as it drifts east

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Aberdeen	6:10	3.5	6:31	3.6	Liverpool	3:33	7.8	3:54	7.8
Avonmouth	11:27	10.8	11:50	10.1	London Bridge	6:15	6.2	6:46	6.2
Belfast	3:42	2.9	4:05	3.2	Lowestoft	1:47	2.3	2:09	2.2
Cardiff	11:13	8.9	11:36	9.5	Margate	4:21	4.2	4:55	4.1
Devonport	10:00	4.8	10:27	4.5	Milford Haven	10:45	5.7	11:12	5.2
Dover	3:23	5.8	3:45	5.5	Newquay	9:43	5.8	10:11	5.4
Dublin	4:28	3.4	4:55	3.5	Oban	10:08	3.3	10:52	3.0
Falmouth	9:35	4.6	10:06	4.3	Pembroke	9:08	4.6	9:38	4.4
Gravesend	5:59	2.9	6:01	3.2	Portland	10:55	1.5	11:30	1.3
Harwich	4:03	3.5	4:29	3.4	Portsmouth	3:57	4.1	4:00	3.9
Holyhead	2:51	4.6	3:08	4.7	Shoreham	3:56	5.3	3:51	5.0
Hull (Albert D)	10:54	7.1	11:20	7.5	Southampton	3:14	4.0	3:27	3.8
Ilfracombe	10:23	7.9	10:50	7.1	Swansea	10:51	7.7	11:22	7.4
Kingst Upon	10:59	6.3	11:26	6.9	Tees	8:32	4.8	8:52	4.5
Leith	7:27	4.6	7:42	4.8	Weston-On-Neab	8:58	3.8	4:29	3.9

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Yesterday: Highest day temp: Penzance, Cornwall, 12C (54F); lowest day temp Aviemore and Tulloch Bridge, Highland, -1C (30F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, North Wales, 0.64in; highest sunshine: Belfast, 6.9hrs.

Under the weather?

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هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES 2

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft — TUESDAY JANUARY 20 1998

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The Times and Justice announce two new awards
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Wage demands raise fears of higher interest rates

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE POUND climbed back above DM3.00 yesterday as fears grew that rising wage demands would force the Bank of England to increase interest rates by as much as half a point in the near future.

Sterling touched a five-month high of nearly DM3.200 during the day, before easing to close at DM3.051 — a rise of one-and-a-half pfennigs on the day. Sterling's trade-weighted index also finished up 0.4, at 105.5.

But the sharp rise in the pound knocked stock market confidence after the FTSE 100 had initially made strong gains in the wake of overnight rises on Asian markets. The FTSE 100 finished up 10.5 at 5,273.6, having earlier reached 5,313.6 — just 53.7 points below its record high. Exporter shares, including GKN and BTR, were especially hard hit because of worries that the latest surge in sterling would undermine competitiveness. The pound's renewed climb was bolstered by evidence of a tightening labour market after the surge in average earnings reported last week. Two surveys, from the Insitute of Directors and Dun & Bradstreet, showed pay settlements continuing to accelerate. The market expects that the Bank of England, which has repeatedly warned about the dangers of rising wages, could now increase rates as early as next month.

Sterling also benefitted from a rise in the dollar against the mark because of EMU worries and the perception that the German economy remains too weak for rate rises. Traders said sterling should have sufficient momentum to test its five-year high of DM3.0878 in July last year. The next test of sentiment will come with the retail sales data tomorrow, while the City is also anxiously awaiting the first estimate of fourth-quarter GDP on Friday.

But the markets shrugged off the latest public sector borrowing requirement figures that showed a deficit of £1.37 billion in December, about £1 billion higher than expected. The total PSBR for this year now totals £6.1 billion, compared with £10 billion.

Analysts blamed the worse than expected figures on a change in timing of income tax payments and the first evidence of the Government loosening spending constraints. Government spending rose 5 per cent, compared with December 1996, although total spending this financial year remains 0.3 per cent lower than in 1996-7.

Commentary, page 29

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	5273.6	(+10.5)
Yield	3.08%	
FTSE All share	2467.54	(+5.96)
Nikkei	18282.04	(+215.59)
New York:		
Dow Jones	Closed	
S&P Composite	—	

US RATE

Federal Funds	Closed	(5¼%)
Long Bond	—	(104¹⁵⁄₃₂)
Yield	—	(5.81%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	7¹⁵⁄₁₆%	(7⅛%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	123²⁄₃₂	(123¹⁄₁₆)

STERLING

New York:		
$	Closed	(1.6338)
London:		
$	1.6357	(1.6371)
DM	3.0043	(2.9911)
FFr	10.0600	(10.0180)
SFr	2.4520	(2.4449)
Yen	210.76	(211.15)
£ Index	105.5	(105.1)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	Closed	(1.8335)
FFr	—	(6.1420)
SFr	—	(1.4977)
Yen	—	(129.28)
$ Index	109.7	(109.6)

Tokyo close Yen 129.08

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Apr)	$15.95	($15.80)

GOLD

London close	$287.55	($289.85)

Flemings brings in Bowe to shake up asset arms

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

COLETTE BOWE, former chief executive of the Personal Investment Authority, is to join Robert Fleming in a radical shake-up of senior management at one of the UK's few remaining independent merchant banks.

Ms Bowe has been appointed executive chairman of Fleming's UK and European retail asset management businesses with a brief to explore ways of bringing the two operations closer together. She will take up the newly created post in early April.

The businesses comprise Save & Prosper, the unit trust and private banking arm in the UK, and Fleming Fund Management, the continental European asset management operation. They manage combined funds of close to £10 billion on behalf of more than 500,000 private investors.

Robert Fleming also announced that Lord Renwick, the incumbent chairman of Save & Prosper, would take up the post of chairman at Robert Fleming Inc, its New York broking house.

The bank confirmed a restructuring of its London investment management operation, which carries out the stock-picking on behalf of Save & Prosper and the Luxembourg operation. Headed by Kenneth Inglis, Fleming Investment Management is putting retail and institutional funds under one roof to create a single pool of fund managers.

Insiders described the shake-up as a significant move by Flemings to bolster its asset management operation amid a spate of consolidation in the financial services sector. The bank, most of whose shares are held by the Fleming family and staff, is determined to remain independent.

Over the past three months, Flemings has seen three of its UK peers — BZW, NatWest Markets and Hambros — dismembered and sold off to foreign banks, raising doubts about the viability of British investment banks. At the same time, bigger players such as SBC Warburg and UBS have announced merger plans to create vast investment banks.

Ms Bowe, who left the PIA in December with a payoff of almost £200,000, said she intended to explore the scope for "synergies" between Save & Prosper and the Luxembourg operation, but denied that the survival of the S&P brand was in question.

Instead, Ms Bowe said she hoped to give Save & Prosper more clout on the Continent. She refused to comment on her remuneration package, but it is likely to be higher than the £160,000 she earned as chief executive of the PIA.

Formerly a director of the Securities and Investments Board, Ms Bowe first came to public attention by her involvement in the Westland affair. During her term at the PIA, Ms Bowe is unlikely to have had much contact with either Save & Prosper or Robert Fleming because the principal regulator has been the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation.

Commentary, page 29

MARTIN BEDDALL



Colette Bowe yesterday after the announcement of her appointment at Flemings

Cliffhanger at Colloids as Ciba weighs counterbid

BY PAUL DURMAN

AN extraordinary day of bid and counter-bid ended last night with shareholders in Allied Colloids waiting to see whether Ciba Speciality Chemicals is prepared to top a £1.35 billion offer from Hercules, the American company that started the bidding war for the Bradford-based chemicals group.

Swiss-owned Ciba was locked in discussions with its advisers at Credit Suisse First Boston trying to decide whether it can justify paying more than the 195p a share that Hercules has offered. Some analysts believe Ciba would make a more complementary partner for Allied Colloids, and that Hercules has reached the limit of what it can afford.

Shares in Allied Colloids closed at 196½p, up 28p. Hercules' third and latest offer is £280 million more than the opening shot it made in November.

Both bidders bought heavily in the market, Ciba acquiring a 4.6 per cent stake for about £57.5 million. Hercules is believed to have bought a similar holding.

Yesterday's moves followed Friday's publication of Allied Colloids defence document. It forecast pre-tax profits of £74 million this year, with the prospect of an additional £11.5 million to come from raw material savings and profit improvement initiatives.

By yesterday morning, this had persuaded Hercules to lift its offer from 155p to 175p a share. This £1.21 billion bid was declared final — subject to competing offers. Within a quarter of an hour Allied Colloids announced it was talking to Ciba about a possible recommended offer worth 182.5p. This included the 3.65p dividend Allied Colloids has promised for this year.

Hercules quickly announced that it was considering raising its bid again. BZW, the broker that is now owned by CFSB, had by then already bought millions of Allied Colloids shares in the market.

Before Ciba had reached an agreement with Allied Colloids and confirmed its offer, Hercules moved again. Shortly before 4pm, the American company, advised by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell, made its second final offer of the day, bidding 195p a share.

Analysts queried whether Hercules could afford to offer more than 175p a share. However, a spokesman for the company said the acquisition of Allied Colloids would still increase its earnings, even though it will now have to pay £280 million more than it was offering yesterday morning. The financial demands of the deal will require Hercules to cut costs at Allied Colloids more aggressively, should it be successful.

Tempus, page 30

Brierley bid puts Bluebird into play

BY CHRIS AYRES

POLLY POCKET, the only serious rival to the Barbie doll in the cut-throat international toy market, could soon find herself with new parents.

A bitter custody battle is being fought over the toy, with Sir Ron Brierley, the New Zealand entrepreneur behind the Guinness Peat Group (GPG), determined to provide her with a new home.

GPG has launched a 101p-per-share cash offer for Bluebird, which also makes miniature Disney characters, Etch-A-Sketch and Plasticine.

Since Bluebird's founder, Torquil Norman, sold his stake and retired in May 1996, the company's shares have fallen from 386p to just 80p. They rose by 27½p yesterday after the bid emerged.

GPG, which already owns 22 per cent of Bluebird, yesterday defended its offer price. Blake Nixon, director of UK operations, said: "The company's been going down hill for some time. Shareholders really don't have much choice."

He added that the majority of Bluebird shareholders were institutions, and that GPG did not intend to dismiss current directors if its offer is accepted.

Bluebird's management, which includes Chris Burgin, who joined as chief exectutive in 1994, yesterday urged shareholders not to accept. The management said: "The offer is nothing more than opportunistic and significantly undervalues Bluebird."

GPG has also invested in football clubs and in Iceland, the frozen food retailer.

Festive shoppers make it a Tesco Christmas cracker

BY DOMINIC WALSH

TESCO yesterday dispelled fears of a gloomy Christmas after revealing a 10 per cent jump in UK sales over the five weeks covering the festive period, with like-for-like sales up 6.5 per cent.

The company said that its customers, partly encouraged by 24-hour opening, had snapped up 1.6 million turkeys and enough crackers to stretch from London to Moscow. Sales in the 21 weeks to January 3 were even better, up 10.5 per cent.

Terry Leahy, chief executive, said: "The market remains competitive, but we continue to outperform the food industry average." Analysts said the figures reinforced Tesco's position as the UK's leading supermarket chain. One suggested the company was probably taking market share from some of the weaker formats such as the Co-op, and was probably benefiting from Safeway's recent woes.

Mike Dennis, food retailing analyst at SG Securities, said he expected Tesco to bolster its earnings momentum with a strategic acquisition in the Far East. "If you want to buy assets in the Far East your pound will stretch a long way," he said.

Mr Dennis predicted the group would spend between £500 million and £1 billion.

Elsewhere, there was good news from Thorntons as the chocolate and icecream retailer reported a strong set of Christmas trading figures. Over the seven weeks up to the day after Boxing Day own-shop sales were up 35 per cent on last year and 14.1 per cent higher on a like-for-like basis.

In the half-year to January 10, total sales were up 22.6 per cent to £80.3 million driven by an accelerated opening programme. It expects to open 100 shops in the full-year against an original target of 80.

Commentary, page 29

Tough US and Asian trade hurts Body Shop shares

BY DOMINIC WALSH

SHARES in Body Shop International slumped more than 7 per cent yesterday as the eco-friendly cosmetics retailer gave warning that tough trading in America and Asia meant full-year operating profits would be flat.

Analysts cut pre-tax profit forecasts by around £4 million, to £38 million, for the year to February 28, little changed from last time.

The shares fell 10p to 127½p, their lowest for more than two years and below the mark at which Gordon and Anita Roddick, who have a 25 per cent stake, had considered taking the group private in 1995.

Total retail sales in the 44 weeks to January 3 were up 5 per cent, although comparable store sales were flat. In the UK comparable sales were up 2 per cent, while the US and Asia were down 5 per cent and 6 per cent. In Asia the decline accelerated to 8 per cent in the ten weeks covering Christmas and New Year. Gordon Roddick said the Asian economic crisis had especially hit trading in Japan, while in the US it had been forced "to respond to aggressive discounting by competitors".

Storehouse, the Bhs-to-Mothercare group, produced slightly weaker-than-expected figures, prompting some analysts to trim full-year forecasts. UK sales at Bhs were up 6.6 per cent for the 12 weeks to January 3, while Mothercare was up 5.6 per cent. Keith Edelman, chief executive, said: "We expect trading in the fourth quarter to remain competitive."

In the sports sector there were strong performances from Blacks Leisure, where like-for-like sales were up 8 per cent in the 44 weeks to January 3, while Sports Division was up 19 per cent in the 48 weeks to January 3.

Tempus, page 30

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Asymmetry float worth £35m to backers

BY PAUL DURMAN

THE proposed flotation of Oxford Asymmetry, which makes chemicals for drug development companies, looks set to create a £35 million fortune for the two property men who backed Stephen Davies when he started the company six years ago.

Oxford Asymmetry is hoping to raise £20 million in a share placing scheduled for March. UBS and Cazenove, the company's advisers, are aiming for a market value of about £100 million.

This suggests the 23 per cent stakes currently held by Nick Cross and Ian Laing, who work for an arm of the MEPC property group, will each be worth about £18 million. Dr Davies, who is professor of chemistry at Oxford University, will find his 12 per cent stake valued at almost £10 million.

Mr Cross said he and Mr Laing had given Dr Davies backing of about £500,000 — although that includes guaranteeing the firm's overdraft in its early days. Their returns on their equity investment are even more extravagant. Mr Cross, who is Oxford Asymmetry's deputy chairman, said: "It is extremely rare. We are very lucky to be associated with a group of people and a business venture that's turned out this well."

Before selling out to MEPC, Mr Cross, 50, and Mr Laing, 51, were part-owners of the site near Abingdon where Oxford Asymmetry is based.

Oxford Asymmetry is already making money, last year producing a £2 million profit on sales that almost doubled to £10 million. Its business is making the chemicals used in discovering and developing new drugs. Edwin Moses, chief executive, who has a 2 per cent stake, said Oxford Asymmetry has pilot manufacturing facilities that can support the development of a new drug through to the end of clinical trials.

3i, which has invested £5.25 million in Oxford Asymmetry, has a 23 per cent stake, while Oxford University owns 8 per cent.

Samsung jobs under threat at London headquarters

BY JON ASHWORTH

FALLOUT from the financial crisis in Asia intensified yesterday, when Samsung, the South Korean industrial conglomerate, announced job cuts at its European headquarters in Brentford, West London.

Up to 33 jobs are under threat, in the latest round of belt-tightening to accompany the collapse in Asia's currencies. Samsung denied reports that it was looking to close its offices in London, New York and Singapore. The company said it was restructuring operations in line with guidelines set by the International Monetary Fund.

Samsung employs more than 2,000 workers in the UK, including 1,400 at Wynyard Park on Teesside, which makes microwave ovens, televisions and computer monitors. The company employs about 7,000 people across Europe as a whole.

The company recently invested £150 million in its Teesside plant, but held back on a further £300 million investment. In November, the company closed its hi-tech industrial plant at Flaxby Moor, near Knaresborough, North Yorkshire, with the loss of more than 70 jobs, just two years after the £13 million factory was built.

Two weeks ago, Samsung announced it was cutting overseas production by up to 40 per cent amid pressure to reduce borrowings.

Korean companies are among the biggest investors in the UK. Hyundai, another big Korean conglomerate, has delayed completion of a £1.1 billion semiconductor plant in Fife, Scotland. LG Corporation is considering scaling down plans for a £1.7 billion television and microchip plant in Newport, Gwent. Daewoo is reviewing plans for an expanded television assembly plant in Northern Ireland.

Asia's deepening financial woes pose a threat to the wide-ranging services that have sprung up to support the UK's Korean community. About 22,000 Koreans live and work in the UK, centred on south-west London suburbs including New Malden, Wimbledon and Kingston upon Thames.

New Malden High Street sports two or three Korean travel agents, a Korean shoe-shop, bookshop and supermarket, local Korean newspapers and Korean restaurants. Many local services employ Korean-speaking staff. A New Malden travel agent, AFS Travel, reports brisk trade with Korean locals.

Jobs cuts are not the first sign of renewed austerity at Samsung in London. A year ago, the company commissioned Terry Farrell & Partners, the architect, to design a landmark headquarters in the shape of a giant glass and steel cylinder, topped with chopstick-style aerials. The project was later scrapped.

UK's Little Korea, page 6

STUART THOMAS



Harry Lambert, left, and Robert Broadley saw Adscene's pre-tax profits move marginally ahead to £2.87 million in the half-year to November 29

Adscene considers three more paid-for weekly newspapers

ADSCENE, the local newspaper publisher and printer, said yesterday that it plans to research the feasibility of a number of new paid-for weekly newspaper launches, after what it regards as the success of *The Canterbury Times* launched in October (Raymond Snoddy writes).

Robert Broadley, Adscene's finance director, said that the group planned to have a look at up to three possible paid-for launches in Kent, but said no decisions had yet been taken.

The company, which publishes free and paid-for weeklies in Kent and the Midlands, announced a pre-tax profit of £2.87 million (£2.78 million) for the six months ended November 29. The main drag on the results were problems at Flair Printing, the group's jobbing printing division, including the departure of key executives after an unsuccessful management buyout attempt. The division made an operational profit of £100,000.

Harry Lambert, chairman and managing director, said the commercial printing division's "reputation and underlying strength has carried it through a difficult 12 months. The new management team is now well placed to move the business forward positively".

Publishing, which had seen [illegible] would be able to maintain its improved performance with the opportunity to improve further." The dividend is maintained at 3.5p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Securities Institute calls for Isa rethink

THE Securities Institute has added its voice to the criticism of the individual savings account (Isa), the Government's proposed tax-free savings scheme, calling for a radical rethink of the plans. The organisation says that the Government's proposals "neither encourage the middle income saver, nor those on more modest incomes", according to the organisation. It also fears that inexperienced investors may be sold inappropriate products.

Isas are intended to replace personal equity plans (Peps) and tax exempt special savings accounts (Tessas), encouraging the low paid to save. But the Securities Institute says that savers will be able to put just £1,000 a year into the cash element of an Isa, whereas an average of £1,800-a-year can be invested in a Tessa. It adds: "It is the the least well-off savers who are most likely to invest principally in cash deposits, and thus the Isa is discriminating against one of the categories of saver it is supposed to help."

Sales growth 'set to fall'

SALES growth in the UK is set to fall to a five-year low, according to the Chartered Institute of Marketing, whose trends survey, published yesterday, predicted a less buoyant economy in 1998 than last year, with reduced inflation, high interest rates and a strong pound all cutting consumer spending. An end to windfall payments to the public from building society conversions will also hit sales, it said. Companies are planning for sales increases of only 0.7 per cent this year, the lowest increase predicted in the survey since 1994.

Alldays chain to grow

WATSON & PHILIP, the grocery store chain that trades under the Alldays banner, has confirmed that it plans major expansion over the next five years to increase the number of outlets by 1,250 to more than 2,000. The expansion would create more than 20,000 jobs. Watson & Philip currently owns more than 275 stores and has 325 franchise outlets. It runs a further 150 concessions at Total petrol garages. The company is due to report its year-end financial results tomorrow.

One 2 One sets target

ONE 2 ONE, the mobile telephone group, is planning to compete with Vodafone and Orange more directly by targeting the market for small and medium-sized businesses. The company has until now concentrated on the consumer and "sole trader" market. The company, a joint venture between US West, the American telecommunicatsions group, and Cable & Wireless, passed the one million subscriber mark last year, with 86 per cent growth.

Healthcare deal agreed

ASSOCIATED Nursing Services, the private healthcare operator, has conditionally agreed to buy the issued share capital of ANS Contract Healthcare it does not already own for £8.98 million cash. ANS has 45 per cent of the issued ordinary shares of Contract Healthcare and 100 per cent of the issued B preference shares. Contract Healthcare was formed as a joint venture of ANS and Nash, Sells and Partners to secure long-term contracts from health authorities to provide nursing care.

German banks merge

THREE public sector banks in the German state of Baden-Wuerttemberg will merge from January 1, 1999. Landeskreditbank, Landesgirokasse and Suedwestdeutsche Landesbank will merge to create Landesbank Baden-Wuerttemberg, said representatives of the banks' owners, comprising the state of Baden-Wuerttemberg, savings bank associations and Stuttgart. The new bank will have total assets of about DM430 billion (about £143 billion).

UK debt relief for Korea

UK BANKS are extending the repayment terms on short-term debt to South Korean banks until March 31. This follows the decision last week of other international banks to roll over certain Korean debt. The move comes as Korean officials and international bankers are set to resume talks aimed at finding a solution to the credit crunch. HSBC is co-ordinating the actions of the UK banks, which include Barclays, Lloyds TSB, NatWest, Royal Bank of Scotland and Standard Chartered.

Bed buy boosts turnover

THE French-owned company that makes beds for the Queen and the Prince of Wales, Continental Sleep Holdings, is buying the UK bedding manufacturer, Nestledown. Continental Sleep's owner, Cauval Industries, which in the past five years has bought the UK manufacturer Cumfilux and Royal bedmaker Sleepeezee, said the deal would add more than £20 million to its annual turnover. It did not disclose how much it paid for the company.

ITV companies seek change in broadcasting tax

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

THE ITV companies are considering launching a campaign to try to persuade the Government to spread special broadcasting taxes across all users of the radio spectrum, including mobile telephone companies.

ITV has long argued that it is unfair that out of £450 million that broadcasters are expected to give to the Treasury this year it will contribute all but £25 million levied on Channel 5.

Trying to achieve "a level playing field" for ITV in terms of both regulation and taxation is one of the objectives identified by Richard Eyre, chief executive of the ITV Network Centre.

The issue is about to come to a head in the next few months when the Independent Television Commission begins the process of renewing individual ITV licences. The ITC, the regulatory body for commercial television, has the autonomy to set a future value on ITV licences. The result is certain to be a cut, compared with the taxes ITV pays now, because of the vastly increased competition in the television market. Some of the leading ITV companies are, however, concerned that if the reduction is seen as too "generous" the Treasury could be annoyed at the loss of funds.

A number of companies are now considering calling in consultants to examine ways of keeping up payments to the Treasury by creating a "spectrum tax", which would bring subscription television companies and mobile telepone operators within the special tax threshold.

ITV executives believe the present Government is more willing to at least consider the possibility of a spectrum tax.

Slowdown forecast for construction

BY A CORRESPONDENT

GROWTH in construction will start to tumble this year after the Government's refusal to increase state spending on public construction projects, a new survey says.

Although building activity is at its highest for six years, and grew by almost a fifth last year, it is now expected to tail off. The survey, by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, found only half the number of members predicting increases last year were optimistic for 1998.

The RICS said: "The decline is explained in part by the belief after last year's change of government that there would be more state investment which would benefit construction projects. With the gradual realisation that government spending will not rise, workload expectation has adjusted."

Private commercial property is driving up construction almost single-handedly, the survey found.

Proteus boosted by BSE tests on supermarket beef

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

SHARES in Proteus International rose 23p to 60p yesterday after the UK biotechnology company announced that the SuperValu chain of 168 supermarkets in the Irish Republic is now selling beef with a label stating that it has been tested for BSE.

The tests are conducted by Enfer Scientific, which has BSE diagnostic technology licensed by Proteus. Tested beef is priced at up to 5p a pound more than non-tested meat. The test is conducted on samples from beef carcasses at Ender's laboratory at Newbridge, outside Dublin, at a price of about £20 per test.

Proteus receives "significant" royalties, it said yesterday. David Gration, chairman of Proteus, said: "We hope this is the first step in the widespread acceptance of this test."

The test being done by Enfer uses an antibody produced by Proteus said to be specific to the "rogue" form of the prion protein responsible for BSE.

Samples from spinal cord of slaughtered animals are removed at the abattoir, packed and bar-coded to identify them as from a particular carcass, and taken to Enfer's laboratory. There, the sample is homogenised, and placed in "wells" on a plate, some of which contain the antibody. If the rogue protein is present, it binds to the antibody, and the process is detected by the emission of visible light.

James Green, director of business development for Proteus, says that the antibody is not sensitive enough to detect the presence of rogue prions in samples from living animals, such as blood. "To do that will require a factor-of-ten increase in sensitivity," he said. "We expect it will take at least two years to achieve that."

Greener eases fears over Asia

BY DOMINIC WALSH

DIAGEO yesterday allayed fears over the effects of the Asian crisis on its spirits business as it produced its first trading update since its creation from Guinness and Grand Metropolitan.

Tony Greener, joint chairman, acknowledged that the region's economic woes had affected business, but said Asia Pacific accounted for just 8 per cent of the combined group's pro-forma trading profit.

Diageo said the pound's strength would hit pre-tax profits by about £140 million in 1997, of which £80 million was attributable to GrandMet businesses and £60 million to Guinness. In the first half of 1998, the adverse impact would be about £60 million on current rates.

United Distillers lifted volumes 1 per cent last year and achieved price rises of about 2 per cent. Guinness, its brewing arm, lifted volumes 2 per cent.

The figures, which are in line with expectations, saw the shares lose just 2p to 563p.

Bank Rates

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells		Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.55	2.37	Malta	0.687	0.626
Austria Sch	22.13	20.47	Netherlds Gld	3.577	3.282
Belgium Fr	65.18	60.22	New Zealand $	2.92	2.69
Canada $	2.472	2.284	Norway Kr	12.99	12.05
Cyprus Cyp£	0.925	0.851	Portugal Esc	319.83	297.50
Denmark Kr	12.04	11.15	S.Africa Rd	8.84	7.85
Finland Mkk	9.69	8.66	Spain Pta	295.79	247.00
France Fr	10.58	9.75	Sweden Kr	13.97	12.97
Germany Dm	3.17	2.93	Switzerland Fr	2.60	2.39
Greece Dr	499	460	Turkey Lira	359470	339692
Hong Kong $	13.47	12.27	USA $	1.741	1.598
Iceland	132	112	Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.		
Ireland Pt	1.24	1.15			
Israel Shk	6.26	5.63			
Italy Lira	3130	2883			
Japan Yen	225.58	206.00			

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Harrison onside at DMG

COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

Bill Harrison has never underestimated his abilities. In late 1994, he was proclaiming his intention to lift Robert Fleming from being a first division merchant bank into the premier league of world corporate finance. Even Flemings' most ardent fans on the terraces would have to concede that Fleming has seemed in danger of relegation rather than promotion but Mr Harrison cannot be blamed for that. He has long gone, to lift BZW into the world-beating league.

Sadly, last year BZW bowed out of the entire competition, leaving Barclays shareholders nursing a multimillion-pound headache. Whether Bill Harrison's strategy of generously waving the Barclays cheque book to entice new players on to his side would have been enough to turn BZW into a global investment bank we shall never know, although his employers clearly suffered severe doubts.

But talents like Bill Harrison's cannot be allowed to languish for long. Deutsche Morgan Grenfell has now snapped up the belligerent Brummie and charged him with . . . creating a world-beating force in banking. The task is somewhat more tightly defined this time, with the emphasis being on corporate banking business. Harrison, who spent eight years at Lehman Brothers before joining Fleming, does have the experience of corporate finance that will be required. Whether he has the diplomatic skills to persuade the Deutsche and Morgan Grenfell factions to play together is generating rather more debate in the City.

The decision to do away with the Morgan Grenfell name has hardly laid a smooth entry path for Mr Harrison. While Morgan Grenfell's days as the sharpest of corporate financiers ended when the firm's tactics became just a little too spiky for the authorities to countenance, there are still a few romantics who would have liked to have seen the name maintained.

But Harrison will, no doubt, be able to assure them that names mean little in the context of global investment banking: it is the figures that count.

By coincidence his old firm, the one before last, yesterday announced its own surprise appointment as part of a strategy which now sounds rather more realistic than the one he defined so recently. Fleming has signed up Colette Bowe, punchy former head of the PIA, to become chairman of its international asset management business.

As the new Financial Services Authority takes unwieldy shape, joining the ranks of the regulated rather than the regulators has obvious appeal. As chairman of Save & Prosper and Fleming's European asset management activities, she is being asked to think strategically about the future of the business rather than involve herself in day to day management.

The bosses of privately owned Robert Fleming obviously have confidence in her abilities. And the length of her stay at the PIA indicates that her stay there may be longer than Bill Harrison's.

Cap'n Eddie must steady the ship

Let's hope foreign exchange traders have got it wrong. Sterling is their latest trendy little play. Prospective members of the euro are stuck in the doldrums. So speculators are running the pound up the flagpole to see how far they can make it sail above three marks. They want to test the recent peaks. The latest came in August. Just before the last of the summer interest rate rises, the Bank of England's sterling index touched 106.6, having been only 84 in the middle of 1996. Previously, the sterling index flirted with 106 at the end of 1990 amid the euphoria of sterling entering Europe's exchange-rate mechanism.

For professionals, this is a fascinating game, though it may be short lived. Yesterday, for instance, sterling tested August peaks but retreated, ending the day just 0.4 per cent higher at 105.5. Today is another day and the players are raring to go.

For British business, however, this game could be dangerous. Enthusiasts for the euro have already laid curses, condemning sterling to instability. If the pound surges above DM 3.02 in the short run, traders in goods and services will not thank traders in the currency, even if their sufferings at the hands of speculators are not in the same regatta as Hong Kong's. More danger beckons if the authorities are sucked into supplying the market's daft demands.

The only reason to keep buying sterling at these levels is to anticipate a further rise of perhaps half a point in UK interest rates. Hence, sterling bulls were encouraged by last week's fall in unemployment and by weekend surveys suggesting that employees' earnings growth was edging up to 5 per cent a year and that service companies were hoping to pass it on.

No matter that 5 per cent wage rises are consistent with growth and inflation at 2.5 per cent each. No matter that retailers have repeatedly tried to widen profit margins with little success. Eddie George, captain of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee, and most of his crew appear to think on the same lines as the speculators.

If Friday's fourth-quarter output statistics show slower growth, as City forecasters expect, the Bank should not raise base rates next month, even if it tells the markets not to expect more, as it did in August. Managing a slowdown into "sustainable" growth without sliding into recession is extremely hard. If the Bank fails, it will discredit the Chancellor's decision to give it that power.

Tesco — at home with the range

For the irregular supermarket shopper, a trip to Tesco can be loaded with unexpected temptations. Calvin Klein underwear and Armani socks lurk only a couple of aisles away from the chocolate digestives; popular CDs and board games lie just around the corner from the tinned tuna fish. Why venture to the high street when a single trolley run will suffice?

Tesco and its ever-increasing product range was one of the winners of the Christmas shopping season and its encroachment into other retailers' territories must account for some of the disappointments suffered elsewhere. As chief executive Terry Leahy was talking about his highly successful non-food sales yesterday, Anita Roddick was having to admit that Body Shop's Christmas trading was depressingly flat. While it will be hard for her to accept it, the fact is that plenty of fancy potions were being flung into Tesco trolleys by people who have been smoothed into accepting the need for foot lotions and herbal baths but are happy to take them without Ms Roddick's political harrassing — and generally at lower prices.

Financial services may eventually yield profits but the major supermarkets know that growth must come from widening their ranges. The essential raw material in this quest is floorspace. If the planners stop them building, then they will have to buy ready-made. On that basis, rumours that Somerfield may have some suitors should not be dismissed.

City on the road

AT KLEINWORT BENSON, David Clementi proved a whiz at selling the idea of privatisation internationally. Now, as Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, he aims to repeat the trick on behalf of the City of London. Next month he embarks on a road show to promote London as a centre for euro currency business. The choice of destinations includes Hong Kong, Singapore and Tokyo. Will local minds be focusing on EMU?

New business jumps 14% for Norwich

BY RICHARD MILES, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

NORWICH UNION, the insurance company that last year swapped its mutual status for a listing on the London Stock Exchange, has reported a 14 per cent increase in new business during 1997.

Worldwide, the company attracted premiums of £407 million on a consolidated basis, compared with £358 million in the previous year, with single-premium life and investment business racking up the biggest increases.

The full-year figures, the first since the group's £7 billion flotation in June, exclude £28 million of premiums raised from sales of free Norwich Union shares on behalf of pension trustees, many of whom were persuaded to buy additional investments rather than take cash.

City analysts gave cautious approval to the results, pointing out that they represented a good performance given the sharp rise in premiums during 1996 when thousands of carpetbaggers besieged the company in the hope of a windfall. The shares, which peaked at 416p, fell 6½p to 408½p yesterday.

Philip Scott, group director for life and pensions, said the figures were all the more remarkable in the light of the group's transformation into a publicly listed company during 1997, as many people had been tied up with managing the process. But he was more bearish about the prospects for 1998. He expects sales to rise by between 5 and 10 per cent, assuming that the financial crisis in South East Asia has a benign impact on the economies of the West.

Friends Provident, the mutual life insurer, also recorded a sharp growth in new business during 1997. On a consolidated basis, premiums rose 33 per cent to £202 million from £150 million in the previous year.

Giving the lie to claims that the mortgage endowment is dead, Friends Provident said sales of such policies jumped 60 per cent to £24 million. Investment products, including with-profits bonds, soared 136 per cent to £264 million.

Tony Barnes, sales and marketing director, said the company had increased its share of the independent financial adviser sector from 2.5 per cent to 3.5 per cent.

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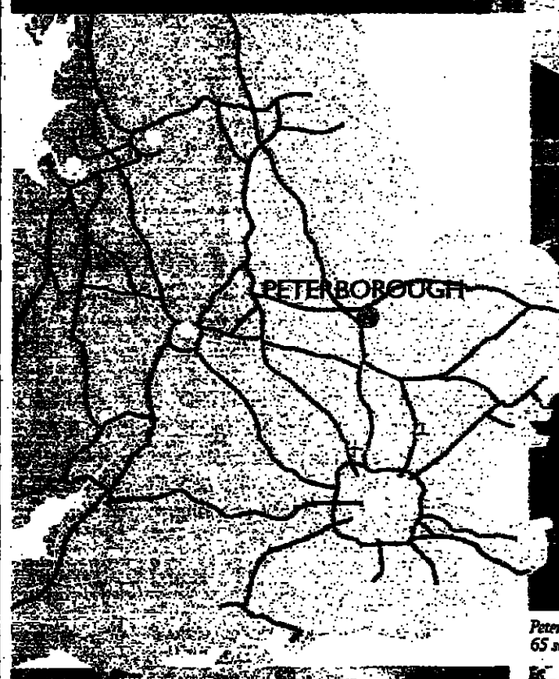
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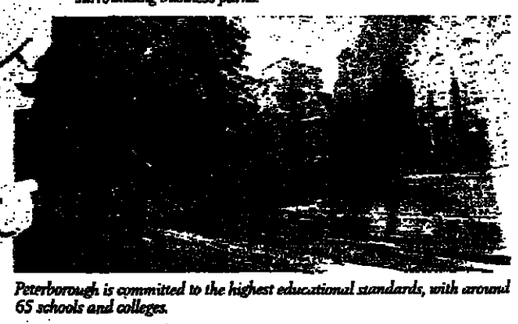
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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Stock Market Writer of the Year

Drugs sector races ahead over talk of SB merger

REPORTS of a merger with American Home Products sent shares of SmithKline Beecham sharply higher and also set the rest of the drugs sector alight.

SmithKline Beecham ended the day 61p dearer at a new peak of 743p valuing the company at £41 billion. The rumours began to circulate on Wall Street late on Friday.

Big is best as far as the drugs industry worldwide is concerned and there has been a succession of multibillion-pound mergers and joint ventures in Europe and the US.

City speculators seemed unperturbed whether the story was true or not. They were just content it had provided a further boost to other companies in the sector. **Glaxo Wellcome** put on 52p at £16.39, **Cantab Pharmaceutical** 25p at 670p with the help of a "buy" recommendation from UBS, the broker, while **Zeneca** added 72p at £22.97.

The rest of the equity market enjoyed an early mark-up supported by firmer performances from financial markets overnight in South-East Asia and a flurry of corporate activity. But with Wall Street closed for Martin Luther King Day, equities in London were unable to maintain the early pace. The FTSE 100 index closed 10.5 up at 5,273.6.

Allied Domecq touched 580p before ending the session 21p higher at 568p after weekend reports claimed the group was in merger talks with Canadian drinks group Seagrams.

Talk in the marketplace has suggests a merger between Allied and Seagrams has been on the cards for sometime. **Diageo** slipped 2p to 563p after warning that a strong pound would leave an £80 million hole in profits.

Tesco firmed ½p to 512½p after reporting a 6.5 per cent rise in like-for-like sales during the five weeks to january 3.

City speculators are licking their lips at the prospect of an all-out price war for control of **Allied Colloids** which responded with a jump of 28p to 196½p. It came after Hercules was forced to raise the terms of its offer from 175p to 195p. This prompted the Swiss company Ciba threatening to adopt the role of white knight by making its own offer of 182½p a share. The new terms value the chemicals specialist at £1.3 billion.

News of the bid for **Bluebird Toys** was greeted with a jump of 27½p at 112½p. Guinness Peat Group is offering 101p a share and was quick to follow it up with sharp criticism of the group's track record. The terms value the Polly Pocket toys group at £42 million.

Whispers about a profits warning hit **Pilkington**, down 10½p at 104½p. But Sir Nigel Rudd, chairman, used the opportunity to add to his holding with the purchase of an extra 100,000 shares at 107½p. Fellow director Andrew Robb also bought 12,007 at 108p.

Proteus International stood out with a jump of 23p at 83p hoping to reap rich rewards from its process of detecting BSE in cattle in just four hours. A chain of supermarkets in Ireland has begun selling beef that has been BSE tested. Proteus gets £2 for every carcass tested.



Proteus shares jumped to 83p over its BSE detection process

Analysts gave a cautious thumbs-up to the trading statement from **Storehouse**. A rise of 6.5 per cent in sales during the 12 weeks leading up to Christmas failed to impress but was countered by a 0.8 per cent increase in margins. The shares firmed 1p to 223p.

But the profits warning from **Body Shop** leaving the shares 10p cheaper at a new low of 127½p. The company blamed problems in Asia for the setback which would leave profits for the year flat. The market was also unimpressed with the trading news from **Blacks Leisure**, despite a 35 per cent leap in sales ahead of Christmas. Like-for-like sales were only 8 per cent ahead and the shares finished 13p lower at 472p.

Positive trading performance during the run-up to Christmas were good for **Style Holdings**, 5p better at 134½p, and **Thorntons**, 9p better at 279p.

The decision of Emerson Electric to bid 111p a share for the remaining 48.9 per cent of **Astec (BSR)** it does not already own lifted the latter 6p to 117p. The terms value Astec at £346 million but the board rejcted the terms as "wholly inadequate".

Hopes of promotion next season to the Premier League are growing stronger after Sunderland's win at Maine Road on Saturday. The **Sunderland** shares responded with another jump of 31p at 462½p.

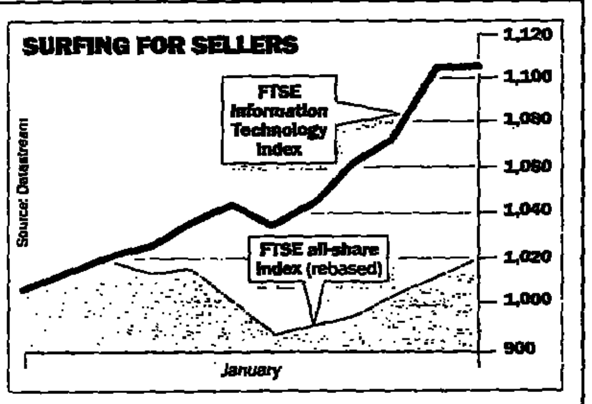
Falklands Island Holdings made a cheerful return to the market after a placing at 100p. The group opened at 155p and touched a high for the day of 190p before closing at 170p, a premium of 70p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Mounting speculation about another rise in interest rates at next month's meeting of the Bank of England independent Monetary Policy Committee continued to impact on bond prices.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt closed a tick easier at £123 9/32.

In the cash market Treasury 7 per cent 2002 finished £3/32 easier at £102¼, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent 2021 fell £⅛ to £124 7/32.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Wall Street was closed for Martin Luther King Day.



IT MAY be in its infancy but the new information and technology sector has already gone down well with City fund managers. They cannot seem to get enough of the companies quoted within this latest constituency of the FTSE All-share index. It was initiated on January 4, but has managed to outperform substantially the rest of the market, as investors, including the index-tracking funds, clamour for stock.

The situation has been made all the more difficult by stock shortages which have exaggerated price movements. As one trader commented: "The problem with the sector is that there are no sellers of it. Those institutions that haven't got any stock feel they are missing out and begin by chasing the sector even higher."

Strong gains were seen in Delphi Group, 41½p to 789p, Diagonal, 42½p to 750p, JBA Holding.s 62½p to £11.97½, Logica, 57½p to £13.45, MSB International, 32½p to 715p, Micro Focus, 62½p to £27.05, Misys, 45p to £20.30, RM, 37½p to £10, and Sema Group, 83½p to £17.55.

MAJOR INDICES

New York:

Dow Jones	Closed
S&P Composite	—

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	16262.04 (+215.59)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	9400.42 (+500.38)

Amsterdam:

AEX Index	2650.70 (+36.70)

Sydney:

AO	949.86 (+11.81)

Frankfurt:

DAX	4284.94 (+100.48)

Singapore:

Straits	1327.18 (+81.92)

Brussels:

General	14876.40 (+129.55)

Paris:

CAC-40	2986.95 (+10.86)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	1275.0 (+10.4)

London:

FT 30	3312.3 (-14.7)
FTSE 100	5273.6 (+10.5)
FTSE 250	4832.8 (+20.2)
FTSE 350	2527.9 (+6.0)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2748.12 (+48.27)
FTSE All-Share	2467.54 (+5.96)
FTSE Non Financials	2470.71 (+9.19)
FTSE Fixed Interest	137.99 (-0.52)
FTSE Govt Secs	103.19 (-0.09)
Bargains	70234
SEAQ Volume	956.9m
US$	1.6363 (-0.0002)
German Mark	3.0051 (+0.0146)
Exchange Index	105.5 (+0.4)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	n/a
£:SDR	1.2150
RPI	160.0 Dec (3.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	158.3 Dec (2.7%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abbey Natl Dublin 11	93½	...
BCO Technologies	190½	- 3
Bond Intl Software	71½	...
General Inds	35½	...
Longmead (135)	144½	...
Marchpole	110	+ 1½
Razorback Vehicles	102½	...
Second Scot Zr Dv Pf	101½	...
Second Scottish Natl	109	+ 1½
Wyndham Motor	103½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Calluna n/p (9)	1	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Allied Colloids	196½p (+28p)
Servisair	251p (+21p)
Smithkline	743p (+61p)
Dawson Hldgs	184p (+11½p)
Broken Hill	582p (+35½p)
Diagonal	750p (+42½p)
Delphi	789p (+41½p)
Colt Telecom	742½p (+29p)
Cantab Pharms	670p (+25p)
Allied Domecq	568p (+21p)
GRE	368p (+13½p)
Sage Gp	987½p (+35p)
Calties	432p (+15p)
Danka Bs Sys	299p (+10p)
Proteus Intl	83p (+23p)
Bluebird Toys	112½p (+27½p)
HK Land	116½p (+27½p)
Jardine Math	273½p (+21½p)

FALLS:

Abacus Recruit	275p (-40p)
Biocomps Intl	440p (-35p)
Body Shop	127½p (-10p)
Smith David	184p (-13½p)
Rolls-Royce	192p (-14p)
Arjo Wiggins	147p (-10p)
Royal Doulton	198½p (-10p)
Argos	426p (-16p)
Somerfield	237½p (-8p)
AB Food	581p (-19p)
Blacks Leis	472p (-13p)
Next	728p (-19p)
Carlton Comm	434p (-11p)
Carpetright	472p (-10p)
Stand Chart	560p (-10p)

Closing Prices Page 32

TEMPUS

Hercules unchained

NEVER before can Allied Colloids have given its shareholders so much excitement in a single day. Three new takeover offers in the space of seven hours must set some form of record. The auction between Hercules, the US company that opened the bidding back in November, and Ciba Speciality Chemicals, the potential Swiss bidder, has pushed up the value of Allied Colloids by £280 million, or 26 per cent, to £1.35 billion — and there may be more to come. The next move is now down to Ciba — which is in the bizarre position of having announced a possible increase to an offer it has yet to make formal.

From the outset, it has always looked extremely unlikely that Colloids would escape with its independence, whatever the wishes of David Farrar, its chief executive. The willingness of Mr Farrar's board to consider recommending Ciba's proposed offer of 182½p a share reduces the argument to one of price. The speed with which Hercules made its second "final" bid of the day, pitched at 195p, indicates its determination.

The attractions of Allied Colloids' business in fast-growing areas such as paper making and pollution control were well appreciated. What is surprising, given the company's disappointing record, is the extent to which the bidders have been prepared to raise the stakes.

At 195p, Hercules is probably paying just about as much as it can afford. The Americans are anxiously insistent that they can still wring improved earnings from the deal, but they will have to make deeper cost cuts. The outcome will depend on whether Ciba can identify any greater synergies within Colloids.

Body Shop

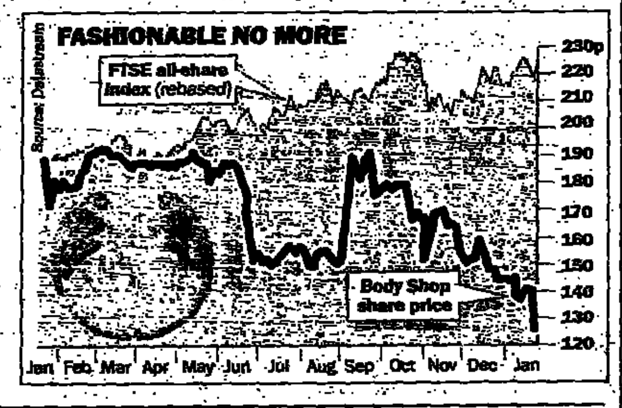
THE proliferation of The Body Shop over the past 22 years has proved a godsend for helpless males desperate to find presents for their womenfolk. Most mums and aunts can be relied on to smile, albeit wanly, when they receive another basket of exotic (and planet-friendly) lotions and cosmetics.

The problem for Body Shop is that these gifts have come to be seen as slightly naff. And admit it, how many tubes of peppermint foot lotion have you got gathering dust, unopened, in your bathroom cupboard?

The other challenge (apart from the Asian economic crisis, of course) is competition. In the US, copycat stores have provoked heavy discounting, producing a ghastly 5 per cent decline in like-for-like sales. In the UK, the problem has been not so much copycats as the high street chains such as Boots and Marks & Spencer, who are putting greater emphasis on 'green' hair and skincare products.

The group is tackling its admitted lack of new products. It has also started a gentle roll-out of a new, brighter store format, and the early signs are that refurbished units are producing above-average sales.

After yesterday's 10p drop to 127½p (down from almost 200p in the autumn) the shares are trading at around 11 times this year's earnings. That looks cheap, but there have been too many banana skins in recent years to excite confidence.



Astec

INVESTORS with controlling stakes in public companies generally treat minority shareholders with contempt, but the junior partners in Astec are being offered a particularly poor deal. The campaign by the company's independent directors should receive wholehearted support.

Emerson's proposed offer of 111p a share significantly undervalues the company, and minority investors should hold out for more. Astec's shares stood above 160p a few months ago. Astec itself concedes trading conditions are difficult, but it does look as if the the stock market has overreacted.

The shares fell sharply after Astec published interim results in August, a reaction that seemed harsh given the company announced a mere 1 per cent fall in profits. Emerson now claims that Asian woes will impact severely on Astec's business.

In truth Astec, which predominantly manufactures in Asia but sells outside the region, has been favourably affected by depreciating Asian currencies.

Financially, Astec is far from being a lame duck. Its current cash resources amount to some $100 million, up $20 million year-on-year, enough to support current investment plans. Emerson's threat to block future dividend payments if the company remains independent should not frighten minority shareholders into hoisting the white flag.

Ashtead

ASHTEAD claims that it has to move at the speed of light to keep up with the consolidation of the US market. But investors could be forgiven for beginning to feel just a little travel sick. Turnover at the plant hire company continues to grow at an impressive and probably unsustainable rate. However, little of this represents a like-for-like improvement. The US market is underdeveloped, but depends heavily on strength of the overall economy.

In the UK recession, Ashtead famously went to America: could it find such an easy way out again? In the UK, Ashtead has pledged to open another 20 specialist depots, having only just recently swallowed its rival, Sheriff, in a £40 million deal. Regardless of any indigestion, the company is already planning its next feast, and has prepared another £40 million in borrowing to fund another acquisition.

Ashtead is undoubtedly run by a very able management team, which has so far delighted investors with a 167p rise in the company's share price since 1994. But it now needs to settle down and start proving that it can deliver strong organic growth. It looks time for investors to take profits.

EDITED BY PAUL DURMAN

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Mar	1034-1033	May	1172-1170
May	1057-1056	Jul	unq
Jul	1078-1076	Sep	
Sep	1100-1098	Dec	
Dec	1127-1126		
Mar	1155-1154	Volume:	3000

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	1815-1805	Sep	1675-1670
Mar	1724-1722	Nov	1670 SLR
May	2700-2695	Jan	unq
Jul	1685-1680	Volume:	2366

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	300.0-299.6
Spot: 296.2		Dec	302.1-301.6
Mar	299.4-299.0	Mar	306.5-306.0
May	302.9-302.0	May	309.0-307.0
Aug	305.4-304.9	Volume:	3510

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on January 16

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	59.97	86.01	67.04
(+/-)	-0.45	-0.59	-3.14
Eng/Wales:	59.97	86.51	86.76
(+/-)	-0.45	-0.67	-3.05
(%)	-34.0	-23.0	-19.0
Scotland:	ucq	82.84	89.34
(+/-)		-0.85	-5.41
(%)		-38.0	+13.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	15.40	+0.55
Brent 15 day (Mar)	15.80	+0.45
Brent 15 day (Apr)	15.95	+0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Mar)	Closed	
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	..	

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	169 (-2)	171 (-2)
Gasoil EEC	142 (-2)	144 (-2)
3.5 Fuel Oil	70 (n/c)	73 (n/c)
Naphtha	159 (+7)	161 (+7)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Feb	143.75-44.00	May	148.50-48.75
Mar	145.50-45.75	Jun	150.00-50.50
Apr	146.75-47.00	Vol:	11505

BRENT (6.00pm)

Mar	15.77-15.78	Jun	16.22-16.26
Apr	15.90-15.93	Jul	16.40-16.46
May	16.10-16.13	Vol:	15889

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	77.40	Jan	73.25
Mar	78.85	Mar	74.75
May	80.90	May	76.00
Jul	82.90	Sep	77.40
Sep	80.25	Nov	79.40
Volume: 521		Volume: 30	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	93.0
Apr	99.9	102.5
May	unq	112.5
		Volume: 77

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kl)

Feb 49.75-50.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jan 98	1126	1122	1122
Feb 98	1115	1113	1110
Mar 98	1151	1150	1150
Apr 98	1180	1170	1170
Vol: 200 lots		Open interest: 1738	

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(Official) (Volume prev day)	LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Rudolf Wolff
	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1682.0-1683.0	1707.0-1708.0	1797425
Lead ($/tonne)	503.50-504.00	513.00-514.00	223879
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1092.5-1093.5	1115.0-1116.0	519475
Tin ($/tonne)	5085.0-5090.0	5130.0-5140.0	12730
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1476.0-1477.0	1496.0-1497.5	1554125
Nickel ($/tonne)	5390.0-5395.0	5490.0-5495.0	85482

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
ASDA	180	10½	18½	22	½	6	8
(*190½)	200	½	7½	12	10	19½	18
Abbey Nat	1150	34	97½	132	5	67	87
(*1178½)	1200	7½	72	107	28	93	112
Allid Lec	800	45½	72½	92	—	23	33
(*845)	850	6	45	64½	11	45½	57
Arjo Wgn	550	27	50	57½	—	19½	29
(*570½)	600	—	28	34½	35	45½	55
BAA	460	8½	35	46	2½	21	31½
(*465½)	500	—	18	28	34½	44	53
BAT Ind	550	21	56½	71	½	23½	33
(*580½)	600	½	31½	47½	31	56	65
Barclays	1700	46½	140	193	7	91½	124
(*1761½)	1800	3½	95	148½	62	145½	174½
Bass	900	19	64	80	2	33	51½
(*916)	950	½	40	55	34½	59	78
Boots	800	32	70	89	2	25	41
(*832½)	850	2½	42½	63	22½	48	65
Br Airways	500	21½	46	59	½	19½	32
(*520)	550	½	24½	37½	27½	45½	59½
BP	800	13	54	78½	6½	45	54
(*808)	850	½	29½	54	44½	68½	81
Br Steel	120	7½	14½	18	1	4½	10
(*127½)	130	1	9	12½	5	9	13
C&W	500	7½	37½	54	6	31½	40½
(*501½)	550	—	20	34	48½	62½	70½
GU	900	14½	75	96	13½	77½	66½
(*900½)	950	1½	54½	75	59½	108	115½
Glaxo	1600	49½	132½	184	5	88½	116½
(*1641½)	1700	4½	85	134½	60½	141½	160½
HSBC	1400	41½	144½	193	14½	126	155½
(*1427½)	1450	15½	120	169½	38½	151½	181½
Halifax	800	7½	40½	62½	5½	41	47½
(*802)	850	—	20	41½	48	72½	78
ICI	900	29½	66	92½	2	43	58
(*927½)	950	2½	41½	67½	25	69	83½
Land Sec	1000	29	82	98	1½	26	44
(*1027½)	1050	6	54	70	18	47½	66
M&S	550	37½	81	72½	—	13½	22
(*587½)	600	2	31	46½	14	32½	45½
Natl Pwr	550	13	52½	67½	4	30½	42½
(*563½)	700	—	31	43½	41½	59	77
Nat West	1050	29½	79	112½	12	79½	92
(*1058½)	1100	4	57½	90	45½	107½	122½
Reuters	550	40½	76	82½	—	16	27½
(*593½)	600	4	47	59½	10	37½	46
Rolls-Royce	850	27½	80	75	1	25½	45½
(*676½)	700	1½	38	51	25	62½	72½
Sainsbury	350	19½	38½	42½	1	15	22
(*369½)	390	—	18	27½	20½	33½	33½
Sainsbury	500	7	32	44½	2½	21½	32½
(*503½)	550	—	12½	22	46½	52½	62
Shell	406	8	—	—	3	—	—
(*405½)	417	1	—	—	13	—	—
Smd Bch	700	47½	79	98	½	22	47½
(*739½)	750	6	54	81½	15½	56	72
Std Char	550	19	56	81	5	47	55½
(*565)	600	1	37	58½	38½	70½	93½
Thames W	900	29	67	89½	•	24½	42

	Series	Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Tesco	550	1	40½	61	29	47½	64
Vodafone	450	27	53	70	1	19½	31
(*480½)	500	2	30½	50½	16½	38½	50½
Woolwich	330	13	21	32½	½	12	16½
(*342½)	360	—	13½	19½	17½	28½	32½
Zeneca	2300	24	120	209	24	125½	161
(*2301½)	2400	1	91	162	99½	183	216½

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BTR	140	12½	23	23	1½	8	12
(*154)	160	7	13½	18½	10	19	22½
Blue Circ	300	27½	36½	41½	3½	12½	17½
(*322)	330	10	20½	26½	16	27½	33
Br Aero	1500	110	162½	212½	21½	38	80
(*1563)	1600	50½	114½	162	55	102	127½
Br Telecom	515	34½	—	—	7½	—	—
(*541½)	565	9	—	—	31	—	—
Cadbury	700	27½	47½	61½	19½	41½	45½
(*705½)	750	8½	20½	40	51	71	77½
Energy Gp	650	39½	49	54½	3	6½	13
(*683½)	700	8	19½	18½	21½	37	33
Guinness	330	28	32½	44	6	14	17
(*356)	360	11½	21	26	16½	28½	31½
GEC	360	17½	32	39½	8½	16	25
(*370½)	390	5	19½	26	25½	32	41½

	Series	Calls Feb	May	—	Puts Feb	May	—
Dixons PLC	550	23	46½	—	13½	27	—
(*557½)	600	5	25	—	46	56	—

	Series	Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Eagle PLC	550	22½	43½	52	16	30	37½
(*562½)	600	4½	22½	31	50	59½	62½
Hanson	240	20	31	32½	9	12	12½
(*256)	260	8½	16½	22½	16½	22½	22½
Imp Tob	420	19	31	42½	9½	17½	24½
(*427½)	460	4	19½	36½	35	40	47
Kingfshr	900	63	83	113	13½	41	50
(*944½)	950	33½	62	37½	34	65	75½
Lasmo	240	21	31½	36½	2	9½	10½
(*257½)	260	8½	21	26	10½	18	19
Ladbroke	280	23½	33½	40	5½	13½	17
(*292½)	300	11	22	30½	11½	21	27
LucasVar	200	12	21½	25½	3½	10	14½
(*207½)	220	3	12½	17½	14½	20½	25
P&O	650	50½	54	73	7	19	31
(*691½)	700	19½	34	47½	24½	47½	54

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Prudentl	750	57½	90	110½	13	27½	43
(*796½)	800	33½	54½	86	33½	62	73½
Rtz Cpe	700	46½	68	88	26½	41½	52
(*729½)	750	28	44½	64½	31	67½	79½
Redland	330	19	18½	16	3½	6½	7½
(*344)	360	—	—	12½	16	26½	22
R-Royce	180	16	24	27½	4	9½	12½
(*190½)	200	6	14½	18	14	22	33
Tesco	500	22	42	54½	18	28	33
(*513)	550	5	19½	32½	41	55	60½
Utd Bisc	220	16	21	24½	10½	12½	17½
(*253)	240	4	11	16	21½	26½	23

	Series	Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
BG PLC	300	27½	38½	—	8½	15½	—
(*323½)	330	14	26	31	39½	26	33
BSkyB	360	35	47	55½	13½	30½	35
(*380)	390	19½	32	42½	28½	37	47½
Br Bio	120	16	24½	30	11½	19	23
(*124½)	130	11½	20	25½	16	24½	29½
Centrica	100	9½	13½	17½	4	7	8
(*109½)	115	3½	7½	12½	11½	12½	15
Dixons	460	47	67½	73	9½	12½	23½
(*493½)	500	24	40½	54½	28	28½	45½
EMI	480	33½	51½	64	27½	34	46½
(*470½)	492	19½	—	—	33½	—	—
Granada	950	57½	58½	128	30½	37	47
(*976½)	1000	35½	57½	79½	44	63½	71
GUS	700	69	91½	107½	17½	23	35½
(*743)	750	40	64½	81	33	53	61
Lloyds TSB	750	69½	93½	111½	33	43	54
(*790)	800	43	69	87	58	67½	75
Lonrho	80	8½	12½	15	7	5	8
(*82)	88	3	8	11½	11½	12½	13½
Natwst	390	34½	42½	55	11½	17½	23½
(*411)	420	19	27½	41	22	31½	36
Orange	260	24	34½	42	8	14	18
(*274½)	280	13	24	32	17½	24	25
Railtrck	900	82	102½	113	44	68	73
(*913)	950	40	77	92	65½	92½	96½
Scot Pwr	500	42	67	72	15	25	33
(*533)	550	15	42	55	37	45	59
Tomkins	30	11½	12	15	2	4	7
(*31)	130	5	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	330	15	22	37½	14	23	25
(*330½)	360	5½	14	19	34	35	43
Unilever	473	31	47	52	14	18	27
(*498)	500	22½	34	48	27½	33½	40

January 19 Total: 27040 Calls: 14735 Puts: 12305

FTSE INDEX (*5282)

Strike	Calls Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Puts Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
5100	295½	333	336	404½	491	89½	146½	185	239½	243
5150	246½	325	355½	402	—	98½	165	204	256	—
5200	210½	275½	325	375	428½	114	159½	223½	272	287½
5250	178½	244	295	347½	—	134	222½	240½	299½	—
5300	144	217	265	325	366	154½	226½	264½	322½	327
5350	115	180½	236	292½	—	179	243½	287	343	—
5400	91½	157½	214½	264½	309	208½	272½	316	364½	374½
5450	67½	124½	193	236½	—	233½	301½	345½	387	—

January 19 Total: 2270 Calls: 1693 Puts: 577 *Underlying security price

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Mar 98	123-04	123-11	122-26	123-09	34164
Previous open interest 190562	Jun 98				107-07	0
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Mar 98	106.25	106.44	106.05	106.35	112974
Previous open interest 267109	Jun 98	105.58	105.66	105.58	105.77	406
German Govt Bond (Bobl)	Mar 98	105.10	105.14	105.06	105.15	2293
Previous open interest 32269	Jun 98				104.71	0
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Mar 98	116.65	117.38	116.55	117.28	61369
Previous open interest 137762	Jun 98	116.74	116.74	116.72	116.73	650
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Mar 98	129.71	129.72	129.62	129.70	1004
	Jun 98	129.12	129.12	129.05	129.10	242
Three Mth Sterling	Mar 98	92.38	92.40	92.35	92.39	17227
	Jun 98	92.43	92.46	92.39	92.44	24865
Previous open interest 780889	Sep 98	92.60	92.61	92.55	92.58	45643
Three Mth Euromark	Mar 98	96.37	96.37	96.35	96.35	31423
Previous open interest 1835645	Jun 98	96.23	96.25	96.22	96.23	28053
Three Mth Eurolira	Mar 98	94.34	94.44	94.32	94.43	28155
Previous open interest 606275	Jun 98	95.07	95.27	95.04	95.23	46014
Three Mth Euroswiss	Mar 98	98.44	98.48	98.43	98.45	5188
Previous open interest 145667	Jun 98	98.31	98.33	98.29	98.31	2142
Three Mth ECU	Mar 98	95.66	95.66	95.64	95.65	478
Previous open interest 34293	Jun 98	95.69	95.70	95.68	95.69	178
FTSE 100	Mar 98	5339.0	5350.0	5285.0	5293.0	7668
Previous open interest 346	Jun 98				5351.0	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 7¼ Finance Hse 8

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 7¼ Low 6½ Week fixed: 7¼

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 7[illegible]; 3 mth 7[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 6[illegible]; 3 mth 6[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open 7[illegible], close 6[illegible].					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.53	n/a	5.53	5.55	5.60
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4-3
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	1-1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $290.00-290.40 Close: $287.30-287.80 High: $290.00-290.40 Low: $285.10-285.60 AM: $285.75 PM: $287.25

Krugerrand: $293.00-295.00 (£180.00-182.00)

Platinum: $376.00 (£229.95) Silver: $5.765(£3.515) Palladium: $231.00 (£141.30)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for January 19	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.3856-3.4027	3.3844-3.3873	1½-1pr	3½-3½pr
Brussels	61.960-62.320	61.941-62.094	25-20pr	65-58pr
Copenhagen	11.439-11.507	11.439-11.449	½-½pr	1-½pr
Dublin	1.1858-1.1940	1.1856-1.1907	17-10pr	52-45pr
Frankfurt	3.0170-3.0206	3.0027-3.0059	1½-1pr	2½-2½pr
Lisbon	306.99-308.87	306.09-307.34	½-½pr	2½-1½pr
Madrid	254.48-255.81	254.48-254.80	63-53pr	183-164pr
Milan	2953.4-2956.6	2953.4-2956.6	40-24pr	114-82pr
Montreal	2.3455-2.3551	2.3499-2.3519	0.65-0.60pr	1.19-1.11pr
New York	1.6334-1.6400	1.6352-1.6362	0.278-0.257pr	0.773-0.742pr
Oslo	12.360-12.473	12.360-12.382	½-½pr	1½-1pr
Paris	10.055-10.119	10.055-10.065	½-½pr	½-½pr
Stockholm	13.153-13.224	13.156-13.172	½-½pr	7/8-½pr
Tokyo	210.80-211.73	210.83-210.88	1½-1½pr	3½-3½pr
Vienna	21.123-21.253	21.123-21.147	½-½pr	2½-1½pr
Zurich	2.4503-2.4673	2.4505-2.4536	1½-1½pr	3½-3½pr

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

OTHER STERLING

Australia	1.4974-1.4985
Austria	12.93-12.94
Belgium (Com)	37.93-37.97
Canada	1.4362-1.67
Denmark	7.0046-7.0066
France	6.1587-6.1597
Germany	1.8385-1.8395
Hong Kong	7.7350-7.7380
Ireland	1.3714-1.3734
Italy	1808.5-1809.0
Japan	128.80-128.85
Malaysia	4.1400-4.1700
Netherlands	2.0715-2.0720
Norway	7.5721-7.5771
Portugal	185.04-188.14
Singapore	1.7460-1.7490
Spain	155.90-155.95
Sweden	8.0504-8.0554
Switzerland	1.4985-1.4995

*Argentina peso**	1.6346-1.6373
Australia dollar	2.4459-2.4492
Bahrain dinar	0.6120-0.6260
*Brazil real**	1.8284-1.8313
China yuan	13.454-13.754
Cyprus pound	0.8710-0.8900
Finland markka	9.0200-9.1610
Greece drachma	468.5-479.0
Hong Kong dollar	12.6436-12.6563
India rupee	63.04-64.34
Indonesia rupiah	n/a
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4970-0.5080
Malaysia ringgit	6.7672-6.8205
New Zealand dollar	2.7705-2.7769
Pakistan rupee	70.70 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9100-6.0450
Singapore dollar	2.8524-2.8590
S Africa rand (com)	8.0840-8.2530
U A E dirham	5.9625-6.0485

Barclays Treasury Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	424	Land Secs	854
AMVESCAP	251	Legal & Gn	1,500
ASDA Gp	5,500	Lloyds TSB	6,000
Abbey Ntl	2,100	LucasVarity	5,400
Allnce & Leic	1,900	Marks Spr	5,600
Allied Dom	2,400	NatWst Bk	1,800
AB Foods	368	Nat Grid	32,300
BAA	1,200	Nat Power	3,300
BAT Inds	3,500	Next	1,400
BG	3,300	Norwich Un	3,200
BOC	984	Nycomed Amr	122
BP	4,100	Orange	2,100
BSkyB	12,000	P & O	807
BTR	13,900	Pearson	828
BT	10,600	PowerGen	6,100
Bk of Scot	4,600	Prudential	2,900
Barclays	2,700	Railtrack	2,300
Bass	2,200	Rank Group	1,300
Billiton	2,000	Reckitt Col	202
Blue Circle	2,100	Reed Intl	2,000
Boots	1,800	Rentokil	2,700
BAe	2,000	Reuters	4,600
BA	4,300	Rio Tinto	7,100
Brit Energy	2,500	Rolls Royce	9,000
British Land	1,900	Royal & Sun	2,000
Brit Steel	10,400	Royal Bk Sct	4,700
Cable Wire	5,400	Safeway	4,300
Cadbury	8,700	Sainsbury	2,300
Carlton Cms	1,700	Schroders	95
Centrica	6,800	Scot & New	1,300
Cm Union	1,200	Scot Power	3,200
Diageo	14,900	Svrn Trent	277
Dixons	9,400	Shell Trans	12,900
EMI	3,400	Siebe	3,700
Energy Gp	140	SmKl Bch	9,800
Enterpr Oil	472	Smiths Indr	1,200
GKN	784	Std Chartd	2,700
GRE	9,100	Sun Life	1,100
GUS	1,100	Tesco	4,900
Gen Acc	1,300	Thames W	943
Gen Elec	8,400	Tomkins	6,600
Glaxo Well	5,800	Unilever	7,100
Granada	4,100	Utd Utilities	568
HSBC	3,100	Utd News	1,600
Halifax	10,600	Vodafone	7,700
Hays	773	Whitbread	2,000
ICI	1,600	Williams	842
Kingfisher	2,800	Wolseley	1,800
LASMO	1,800	Woolwich	6,200
Ladbroke	4,100	Zeneca	2,400

WALL STREET

	Jan 16 close	Jan 15 close
AMP Inc	37	38
AMR Corp	132	130
AT & T	66	65
Abbott Labs	70	69
Advanced Micro	17	18
Aetna Life	71	71
Ahmanson (HF)	57	57
Air Prod & Chem	78	77
AirTouch Comm	43	42
Albertson's	45	45
Alcan Aluminm	27	26
Allied Signal	38	38
Alum Co of Am	66	65
Amerada Hess	53	52
AEP	50	50
Amer Express	82	81
Amer Genl Corp	55	54
Amer Home Pr	80	81
Amer Intl	108	107
Amer Stores	21	21
Amer Standard	39	39
Ameritech	84	83
Amgen	49	49
Amoco	83	87
Andrew Corp	23	21
Anheuser-Busch	44	44
Apple Computer	18	19
Archer Daniels	21	22
Armco	4	4
Armstrong Wrld	72	71
Asarco	21	21
Atl Richfield	78	78
Atmel Corp	16	17
Auto Data Pro	59	59
Avery Dennison	43	43
Avon Products	57	56
Baker Hughes	38	38
Baltim Gas & El	32	32
Banc One	53	52
BankAmerica	68	68
Bank of NY	56	54
Bankers Tr NY	105	102
Bausch & Lomb	41	39
Baxter Intl	51	50
Becton Dickson	55	52
Bell Atlantic	89	89
BellSouth	58	57
Best Foods	100	97
Black & Decker	44	43
Block (H&R)	41	41
Boeing	45	44
Boise Cascade	29	28
Boston Scien	46	43
Bristol Myrs Sq	93	92
Browning Ferris	36	36
Brunswick	28	27
Burlingtn Nthn	85	86
CMS Energy Corp	43	43
CSX	53	52
CBS Corp	29	30
Campbell Soup	54	53
Carolina Pwr	42	41
Case Corp	58	57
Caterpillar	48	49
Central & SW	26	26
Champion Intl	47	46
Chase Manhat	105	103
Chevron Corp	76	76
Chrysler	35	33
Chubb Corp	75	75
Cigna Corp	170	170
Citicorp	119	117
Clorox	77	77
Coastal Corp	56	59
Coca Cola	65	67
Coca Cola Ent	36	35
Colgate-Palm	70	69
Columbia Gas	75	76
ColumbiaHCA	27	27
Compaq Comp	59	58
Comp Asc Int	49	49
Conagra	32	32
Cons Edison	39	39
Cons Nat Gas	55	55
Cooper Inds	49	49
Corestates	78	78
Corning Inc	37	37
CPC Intl	44	43
Crestar Finl	52	52
Crown Cork	49	47
Dana Corp	49	49
Dayton Hudson	70	69
Deere	51	51
Delta Air Lines	118	115
Deluxe Corp	33	33
Digital Equip	39	39
Dillard Dept St	33	33
Disney (Walt)	98	98
Dominion Res	40	40
Donnelley (RR)	36	35
Dover Corp	34	34
Dow Chemical	91	92
Dow Jones	51	51
Dresser	38	38
Duke Power	55	54
Dun & Bradstreet	32	32
Du Pont	59	59
Eastman Chem	59	58
Eastman Kodak	58	58
Eaton Corp	92	90

	Jan 16 close	Jan 15 close
Edison Int	26	26
Elect Data Sys	41	42
Emerson Elec	61	61
Engelhard Corp	17	17
Enron Corp	40	39
Entergy	28	27
Ethyl Corp	7	7
Exxon	60	59
FMC Corp	64	62
FPL Group	56	58
Federal Express	65	63
Fifth Third Banc	76	75
Fleet Finl Grp	71	72
Fluor Corp	39	39
Ford Motor	49	48
Fort James	39	38
Fortune Brands	37	37
Franklin Res	42	52
GTE Corp	51	50
Gannett	58	57
Gap Inc Del	38	38
Gateway 2000	33	33
Gen Dynamics	85	85
Gen Electric	73	72
Gen Mills	72	71
Gen Motors	57	58
Gen Reinsurance	207	206
Gen Signal	39	39
Genuine Parts	33	33
Georgia Pac	57	55
Gillette	102	102
Glaxo Welc ADR	52	49
Goodrich (BF)	40	39
Goodyear Tire	62	61
Great Lakes	43	43
Halliburton	46	44
Harcourt General	52	52
Heinz (HJ)	54	53
Hercules	48	47
Hershey Foods	64	61
Hewlett Packard	63	64
Hilton Hotels	30	29
Home Depot	59	59
Homestake Mng	9	8
Honeywell	68	67
Household Intl	126	122
Houston Inds	25	25
Humana	20	19
ITT Corp	81	81
Ikon Office	27	27
Illinois Tool	55	54
Illinova	30	29
INCO	16	15
Ingersoll Rand	39	38
Inland Steel	18	18
Intel Corp	74	75
IBM	105	103
Intl Flav & Fr	45	45
Intl Paper	43	42
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	66	65
Kellogg	48	48
Kerr-McGee	61	59
Kimberly-Clark	51	50
Kmart	11	11
Knight-Ridder	55	55
Lilly (Eli)	67	67
Limited Inc	26	26
Lincoln Nat	74	73
Litton	56	55
Liz Claiborne	40	38
Lockheed Martin	99	97
Louisiana Pac	18	17
MCI Comm	43	43
Manpower Inc	34	33
Marriott Int	66	69
Marsh & McLnn	73	71
Mason Corp	50	51
May Dept St	51	51
Maytag Corp	37	37
McDonalds	47	46
McGraw Hill	73	73
Mead Corp	29	28
Medtronic Corp	34	34
Medtronic	47	45
Mellon Bk	60	59
Merck Inc	109	106
Mercury Fin	0	0
Merrill Lynch	68	65
Microsoft	135	132
Minnesota Mine	83	82
Mirage Resorts	26	24
Mobil Corp	69	69
Monsanto	41	40
Morgan (JP)	106	105
Motorola Inc	58	55
Mylan Labs	19	20
Natl Semi	24	24
Natl Service Ind	50	40
Navistar Int	25	25
NY Times A	64	65
Newmont Mng	27	26
Nike B	41	41
NL Industries	16	16
Nordstrom	44	42
Norfolk Sthn	30	30
Nthn State Pwr	55	56
Norwest Corp	32	32
Occidental Pet	27	27
Office Depot	23	23
Oracle	19	19

	Jan 16 close	Jan 15 close
Oryx Energy Co	24	23
Owens Corning	27	27
PPG Industries	56	55
PMI Group	70	70
PNC Bank	52	51
PP&L Res	22	23
Paccar Inc	51	49
PacifiCorp	24	24
Pac Enterprises	37	36
PaineWebber	30	30
Pall Corp	21	21
Parker Hannifin	47	48
Peco Energy	23	23
Penney (JC)	59	58
Pennzoil	65	64
Pepsico	36	36
Pfizer	76	76
Pharm & Upjhn	35	35
Phelps Dodge	63	60
Philip Morris	45	45
Phillips Pet	44	44
Pitney Bowes	90	89
Polaroid	41	41
Procter & Gmbl	79	79
Providian	45	45
Pub Serv E & G	31	31
Quaker Oats	52	51
Ralston Purina	91	90
Raychem Corp	39	38
Reebok Ind	26	26
ReliaStar Fin	41	40
Reynolds Metals	56	54
Rockwell Intl	52	51
Rohm & Haas	83	85
Royal Dutch	51	50
Rubbermaid	26	25
SBC Comms	74	73
Safeco Corp	48	47
St Paul's Cos	78	78
Sara Lee Corp	59	58
Schering Plough	68	67
Schlumberger	77	74
Seagram	34	33
Sears Roebuck	45	45
Shell Trans	40	40
Sherwin Wlms	27	27
Silicon Graphics	11	11
Snap-On-Tools	40	40
Southern Co	25	25
Southtrust	57	56
Sprint Corp	59	58
Stanley Works	44	43
Sun Company	41	41
Sun Microsys	45	43
Suntrust	69	68
Supervalu	42	41
Synovus Fin	31	31
Sysco Corp	45	45
TRW Inc	52	51
TJX Hldgs	33	32
Tandy Corp	34	34
Temple Inland	52	50
Tenet Healthcare	35	34
Tenneco	36	36
Texaco	54	53
Texas Inst	45	45
Texas Utilities	41	41
Textron	58	58
Thermo Elect	40	40
Time Warner	60	59
Times-Mirror A	60	59
Timken	33	33
Torchmark	41	42
Toys R Us	27	26
Transamerica	106	106
Travelers	50	49
Tribune	62	60
UST Inc	34	35
US Bancorp	108	108
UAL	89	87
Unilever	61	61
US Inds	27	27
US West Comm	47	46
US West Media	29	29
USAirways Group	61	60
USX Marathon	32	32
Unicom	31	30
Unilever NV	59	57
Union Camp	54	53
Union Carbide	40	41
Union Pacific	59	59
Unisys Corp	15	15
USF&G Corp	21	21
United Tech	71	70
Unocal Corp	36	35
VF Corp	45	45
Wal-Mart Stores	40	39
Warner-Lambert	127	127
Waste Mngmt	23	27
Wells Fargo	321	317
Weyerhaeuser	47	45
Whirlpool	54	54
Whitman	26	25
Winn Dixie	40	41
Witco Corp	39	39
Woolworth	19	19
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	77	76
Xerox	71	70
Xilinx Inc	35	36

Aerospace minnows emerge from niches to make profits

The merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas in the US has elicited worried shouts of "rationalise or die" from Europe's aerospace industry. There is little doubt that the likes of British Aerospace and GEC would have a greater chance of winning certain contracts if they consolidated with European competitors. However, merger mania is not affecting all companies in the sector.

Some niche players are thriving and are quite happy for the process of European defence restructuring to go on around them, while their share prices are sent higher by organic growth and more modest acquisition. Three listed UK companies — Meggitt, Ultra Electronics and Cobham — demonstrate how smaller, highly specialised outfits can still win substantial orders.

Last week, Meggitt's aerospace division, which accounts for more than half its profits, won a contract worth more than $100 million to supply back-up instrumentation for a range of Boeing planes, starting with the new 737 model.

The deal is a good omen for Meggitt's bid to get the same equipment aboard the Airbus range. Meggitt is understood to have beaten Sextant Avionique, the current Airbus supplier, as well as Smiths Industries.

The product being supplied to Boeing is typical of an aerospace niche player. Supplying back-up flight instruments means generally avoiding competition from the biggest players, such as Honeywell.

This recipe has helped Meggitt's share price to increase from 63p in the dark days of 1995, when the restructuring was yet to happen, to about 173p, valuing the company at about £382 million.

Ultra Electronics was formed in a management buyout of seven businesses from the TI Group. The buyout was led by Julian Blogh, now chief executive and owner of nearly 3 per cent of the company. Having listed at 250p in September 1996, the shares now trade at about 360p, valuing the company at about £235 million.

Ultra's aerospace products include noise and vibration controls, sonobuoys for submarine detection (they are dropped from aircraft), landing gear computers and joysticks.

Its list of customers illustrates another common trait of successful aerospace niche players. Barnaby Wiener, Merrill Lynch analyst, explains: "The likes of Ultra, Cobham and Meggitt have got quite broad platform exposure." In layman's term, this means their products are carried on a wide range of aircraft.

Planes using Ultra Electronics products include a range of Airbuses, Saabs and the Boeing 757, plus defence aircraft such as the Nimrod 2000, the Tornado and the Eurofighter.

The niche suppliers are fortunate in this respect, since they may escape the flag-waving "them-and-us" situation that is discernible in the reorganisation of the "platform providers" who actually build Europe's aircraft, and the big electronics contractors that serve them.

GEC has already pointed out that the blueprint put forward by European governments with a great fanfare last year makes little mention of collaboration between European and US companies. The niche players are not big enough to be suffocated by national ideology and would continue to supply both Boeing and Airbus if they could.

Dr Blogh believes Ultra could be two or three times its current size before it encounters problematic competition from the giants of the secor. The company is in negotiation with Airbus over supplying the landing gear computers to the new A340-500 and -600 variants.

Cobham, with a market capitalisation of about £730 million, is no minnow. But its aerospace activity follows the successful pattern of spreading exposure: it is supplying different parts to Boeing and Lockheed as the two pitch for the Joint Strike Fighter planned by the US Government. By purchasing ML Aviation last year, it bought into weapons-release equipment that will be used for the Eurofighter too. Cobham's share price has climbed from 216p in November 1993, to 784½p at the close of last week.

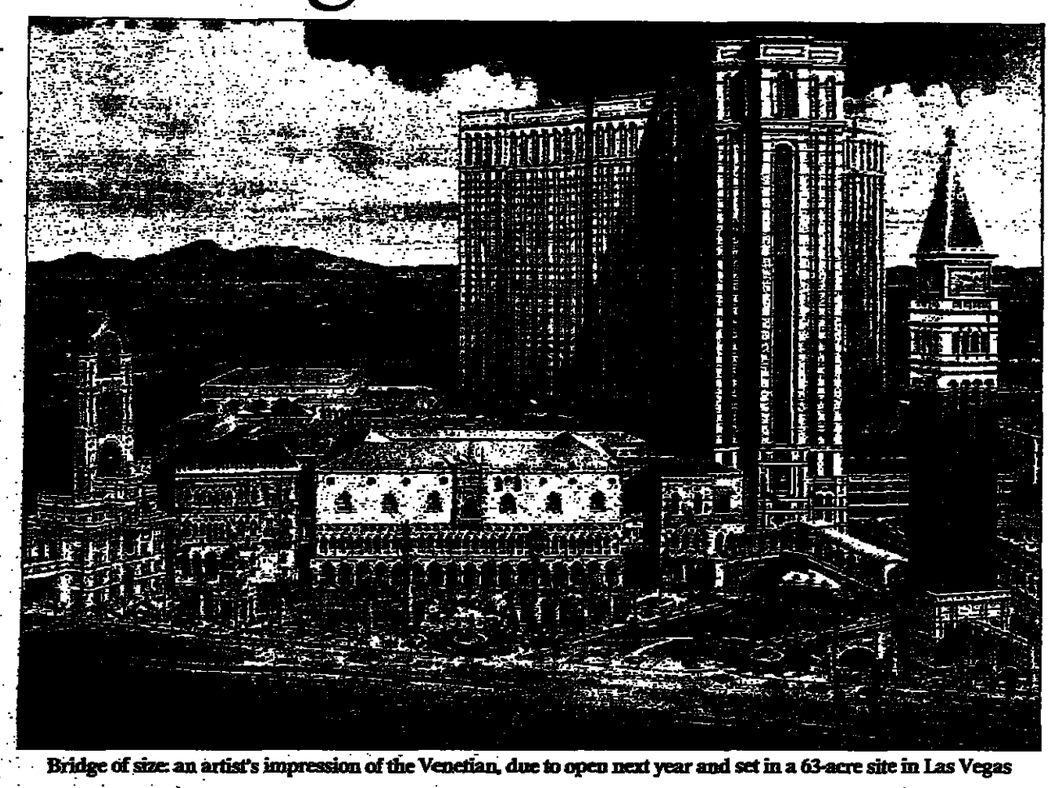
Aerospace investors continue to be worried that Asia's financial problems might lead to aircraft order cancellations. The niche players are not immune. Ultra Electronics shares lost 21p in one day last week in the wake of Philippine Airlines cancelling four Boeings.

The cyclical nature of aerospace is another worry. The peak for orders is often predicted to be about the year 2000. There are suggestions that Asia's problems may have a smoothing effect, perhaps avoiding the need for a downswing. If this happens, Boeing and Airbus could launch superjumbo projects bringing even more work to the niche suppliers, but it remains "a big if".

ADAM JONES

London Clubs puts money on a high-rolling future in the desert

UK companies hope to hit jackpot in new goldrush in Las Vegas, says Oliver August



Bridge of size: an artist's impression of the Venetian, due to open next year and set in a 63-acre site in Las Vegas

Las Vegas is the home of hyperbole, where every jackpot is claimed to be the world's biggest and every punter is promised to make a fortune. But when casino bosses speak of a new goldrush in the desert city, they are not exaggerating.

An economic boom is gathering along Interstate 15 in southern Nevada that makes even the most handsome baccarat payout look miserly. Over the next two years, the number of hotel rooms in Las Vegas will grow from 100,000 to 130,000. The world's biggest hotel casino complex is being erected on the famous Strip for $2.5 billion. The Venetian will offer more than six thousand suites.

And for the first time, British companies are in the game. Bovis is managing the construction of the Venetian, employing 2,200 builders and engineers. Pearson's Madame Tussauds will open its first US wax figure exhibition, and London Clubs International will be the first UK casino company to operate in Las Vegas.

But will the gamble pay off? The 30 per cent room expansion is unprecedented and Wall Street is suspicious of overcapacity. Some of the bonds issued by the Venetian have a junk rating. Bill Weidner, the president of Las Vegas Sands, the developer of the Venetian, is undeterred. Sitting in a single showroom suite on the half-built complex, he said: "We expect 30 million visitors a year."

Venetian's opening is scheduled for next spring. The hotel and casino are supposed to be a life-size replica of Venice, including the canals. Guests will be shuttled to and from the gaming tables on gondolas. Singing gondoliers will punt them from the Doge's Palace to St Mark's Square and the Grand Canal shopping centre. On the way across the 63-acre property, they will pass the Bridge of Sighs and the Rialto. British visitors may find the Venetian tacky but by Las Vegas standards it is almost tasteful.

The Venetian's opening will coincide with the opening of three other 3,000-plus hotel room casinos: The Bellagio, which is almost finished, the Hilton Corporation's Paris and the completely rebuilt Aladdin, in which London Clubs International has a 25 per cent stake. The Aladdin will open in two years and the first artist's impressions look like a billion-dollar version of an Oxford May ball. The theme is A Thousand and One Nights and the Lost City. Punters are meant to get lost in endless corridors that all lead back to slot machines. There are no windows to prolong the evening beyond dawn.

London Clubs has so far invested $50 million. Its role will be the management of the high-roller part of the casino where film stars, sheikhs and professional gamblers wager at least $1 million a go. This separate facility will offer semi-private gaming rooms near private lifts to the suites. Of course, the 25 invitation-only suites are free — the million-dollar losses at the gaming tables cover the cost.

Alan Goodenough, London Clubs chief executive, said: "We will get management fees from the premium player facility and a quarter of overall profits. We expect to make our money back in three years, or a maximum of four." The involvement of a UK company in this high-profile project has surprised some executives at other Las Vegas casinos. Why shun all these seasoned local operators? Earlier this month, Bruce Willis was throwing away $200,000 playing blackjack at the Mirage casino. Mr Willis was likely to make more money for the casino than all the other punters together. The Mirage has been taking his money for years.

James McKennon, the Aladdin president, offers an explanation for his unusual choice of partner. He said: "London Clubs has long-standing relationships with the top players in the Middle East and North Africa. London Clubs can just pick up the phone and call someone in Abu Dhabi and invite them to come to one of their casinos." Mr McKennon declines to name names but the high rollers in the million-dollar bracket are known to include the Sultan of Brunei and Kerry Packer, the Australian media mogul.

A second reason for choosing London Clubs was its expertise in catering for the tastes of the high rollers. Mr McKennon is effectively saying that US companies — geared towards the mass market with themed restaurants and staccato dealers — lack the subtlety needed to entertain sultans. He said: "Just throwing money at a customer isn't good enough today. You have to meet their idiosyncrasies to create points of differentiation."

Rob Goldstein, the Venetian's marketing director, said the Venetian will not follow the Aladdin's lead. He said: "We are not going after the top 200 players. That market is sought too aggressively by too many at the moment. Our top limit will be $75,000. The problem with the premium players is that the casinos have to win twice: once at the table and then collecting the debts. These high bets are based on gentlemen's agreements. The players don't have to pay up front. With foreign players, US casinos have little or no recourse to the law, unlike in London. The players can simply walk away from their losses."

But Mr Goldstein agrees that the London Clubs involvement makes sense. "We need to bring more Arabs here," he said. "The British casinos have a much higher appetite for risk. Their finances allow them to get involved in high stakes games that we would refuse. Las Vegas has traditionally been chasing the mass market where revenue fluctuations are much smaller."

An influx of high rollers, however, hardly addresses Las Vegas's overcapacity problem. Putting the case for the Aladdin, Mr McKennon said: "There have been two record increases in hotel room numbers in the past, and occupancy rates did not suffer. In 1990, the opening of the Mirage and the Excalibur increased capacity by 15.6 per cent. In 1994 the new Luxor, MGM Grand and Treasure Island boosted capacity by 19.9 per cent." Weekend occupancy in Las Vegas stands at 97 per cent, dropping to 87 per cent during the week, compared with a 67 per cent national average.

Mr Goodenough is more cautious: "I expect that there are a whole lot of rooms being built in Las Vegas at the moment. Some people say there will be problems. But even if there are too many rooms in the short term, long-term growth seems certain."

Outsiders take a more critical view. Henry Lewin, a casino executive who used to work for Sheldon Adelson, the main Venetian investor, said: "Anybody who wants to build 6,000 rooms in a city that is already overbuilt is smoking something." Greg Zappin, a Standard & Poor's analyst, said: "The Venetian still has to be built and designed. They don't have a track record." S&P assigned a B- rating to the Venetian's mortgage debt and a CCC+ rating to the senior subordinate debt. Moody's gave the Venetian similar ratings. Mr Goldstein said: "That was the highest rating they could have given us as a start-up with no reliable cashflow. They gave us a pretty good write-up."

The Venetian's confidence that it can fill the largest hotel complex in the world stems from its unique position in Las Vegas. It will stand next to the Sands expo centre, American's second largest convention centre, which is also owned by Mr Adelson. The centre's million sq ft exhibition space is booked for an average of 36 weeks a year, filling up most of the hotel rooms along the Strip.

The traditional strategy of all Las Vegas casinos is to make as much money as possible on gambling and give food and accommodation away for free. The Venetian is breaking with that strategy; it aims to make only 35 per cent of its revenues from gaming, not the usual 50 per cent to 80 per cent. The remaining revenue will come from luring convention and trade show visitors to the retail areas and charging standard rates for the hotel rooms. All 6,000 of them will be suites of at least 700 sq ft equipped with minibars and fax machines — a Las Vegas first.

The hotel will also have ballrooms for post-convention functions, but no wedding chapel. Even for the Venetian with all its fake statues and wannabe gondoliers the chapels would breach the tolerance level for tackiness.

THE BUSINESS OF POLITICS

Hampel throws a fat cat among Labour pigeons

Is the Department of Trade and Industry about to break its vow of silence? With the effervescent Margaret Beckett at the helm, the DTI was expected to be one of the most active arms of government, churning out reform ideas and legislation as fast as business could stomach them. But to date, the President of the Board of Trade has been content to go quietly about about her daily business leaving the DTI's sister departments — the Treasury and Social Security — to steal legislative time and the headlines.

On the face of it, the publication of the Hampel Committee report on corporate governance next week, will present Mrs Beckett and her team with a tempting opportunity to swing into action. The committee is very much the creature of the last Government. It is stuffed full of the kind of highly paid businessmen who have come under fierce attack from Labour for "fat-cat" pay deals. At the helm is Sir Ronald Hampel, the ICI chairman and fully paid-up member of the business establishment, who made it clear from the outset that he was not interested in radical solutions.



ALASDAIR MURRAY

He has spent the last two-and-a-half years persuading the world that corporate governance is such a complex and dull issue that no-one except a few lawyers, company secretaries and academic experts would really wish to delve into its deeper mysteries. The committee has spent countless hours splitting hairs about the difference between a "code" and a set of "principles". Its main reform proposal at the interim stage was simply to combine the existing Cadbury and Greenbury reports in a "supercode".

The final report, due to be published on January 28, is not expected to go much further and is likely to prompt a hail of criticism from corporate governance campaigners such as the Pensions Investment Relations Consultancy. The news that Mrs Beckett has earmarked the Pirc annual conference, a hotbed of shareholder activism, to make her first important speech on the subject will probably leave chief executives clutching their wallets.

Labour may have had political fun in opposition with its attacks on "fat cats" but it also developed a more serious critique of the state of corporate governance. The lack of boardroom accountability was encouraging complacency and harming British business performance, it argued. To resolve this dilemma, Labour floated a raft of far-reaching reforms such as two-tier boards and compulsory shareholder voting.

But as Labour is rapidly learning, life is a little more complicated in government. A renewed onslaught on "fat cats" will prompt embarrassment among some of the Government's new-found business allies. Gerry Robinson, friend of Tony and new chairman of the Arts Council, has been under fire in recent weeks for the £138,000 payoff he received for cutting the notice term on his contract at Granada. Lord Simon of Highbury, who has gone underground since delicate questions were raised about his BP share options, actually sat on the Hampel Committee until he became Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe. A concerted attack on the committee would appear to be a rebuff for Lord Simon, who is the minister in charge of corporate governance issues. It would also revive suspicions that there is a DTI turf war between Lord Simon and Ian McCartney, the gruff former seaman who is Minister for Competitiveness.

With no legislative time available in the near future, the DTI would be foolish to announce some ill-considered grand plan leaving opponents plenty of time to pick holes in the reforms. A departmental review, probably also encompassing the wider issue of company law, would buy time while placing some gentle pressure on business and institutions to make the the post-Hampel system work. It will satisfy the "something must be done" brigade but allow Mrs Beckett quietly to bury some of Labour's previous wilder flights of fancy on the subject. Mrs Beckett's best hope of avoiding an unnecessary pitched battle on this subject will be to carry on as before — a few choice words followed by another period of dignified silence.

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Hard lessons

BRIAN STAPLES, sacked last summer as chief executive of United Utilities, says he has learnt one thing at least: "Always keep an eye on your chairman." He claims, implausibly, it must be said, in the trade magazine *Building* that he never had a cross word with Sir Desmond Pitcher, the chairman who sacked him and was then pushed out in turn. And Staples, now running Amey and suing his former employer for £1 million, has learnt a second lesson too. "In the past I've had to bring many senior managers into my office and say, we've got to let you go. You feel compassion for them, but you don't have any perception of what it feels like to be on the other end, and that it feels bloody horrible."

Funnily enough, he doesn't say anything about not running off with the boss's secretary.



"I'm a shareholder — anything for tension and headaches?"

☐ *SIGNS of ecological dissent from Merrill Lynch. A research document on utilities has an anodyne cartoon on the front of the team, dressed as miners, stoking a boiler labelled "1998 Utilities Almanac". Turn to the back cover. A blasted landscape of polluted water, dying birds, huge electricity pylons and cooling towers, labelled "The Environment". I wonder what the clients think.*

The raw prawn

ASDA and Iceland Frozen Foods have fallen out over a plateful of prawns and broccoli. Iceland has complained to the Advertising Standards Authority over some knocking copy which alleged a basket of frozen food was cheaper at Asda than at one of its stores. The complaint, and this is where it becomes surreal, was that Asda's broccoli was inferior to Iceland's because as spears rather than florets it contained more stalk. Plus, the Asda prawns were smaller. Iceland won on the prawns but lost on the broccoli, Asda claiming that the stalks "added flavour", a view with which the ASA was forced to concur. Oh, to have been a fly on the wall during the learned discussions that must have preceded that ruling.

Dog days

THE sad decision by Samsung to relocate much of its head office to Korea puts a question mark over one of the company's most generous sponsorships in Britain, of Crufts. (Stop sniggering. Yes, the dog show, and yes, I know they do). It seems Kun Hee Lee, the Samsung chairman, has a great fondness for dogs and keeps a pedigree kennel. (I said, stop sniggering). The sponsorship may continue, but no decision has been taken. Crufts should have no difficulty finding alternative sponsors, so the exhibition shouldn't be at risk. (Look, if you won't take this seriously, I am not going to continue. Anyway, I'm sure they taste very nice.)

☐ *THERE is hope for the City yet. I am told the first copy of* Birthday Letters, *by Ted Hughes, the Poet Laureate, to be sold in Britain exited WH Smith at Liverpool Street soon after 7 am yesterday, accompanied by a commuter. The shop sold another 20-odd by the close of play.*

Any port . . .

I HAVE a modest proposal. The latest plan the spin doctors have come up with for the Millennium Dome, after consultation over the weekend with various focus groups, is for a free-range piggery. I have this on good authority, but attention spans are short and plans may change again. Now I know how to build the Dome on time for much less than the projected £700 million, and all courtesy of our oldest ally.

For the past four years Portugal has been trying to sell its Expo 98, near Lisbon, as a holiday destination. Luckily for UK taxpayers, Expo 98 will hardly have opened in May before it closes in September, leaving an oceanarium and a new station for Lisbon. And a lot of expensively designed 21st century junk lying around that hardly anyone from the English-speaking world will have seen — the pictures I have are of post-modern metal gantries that make Lloyd's of London look like Anne Hathaway's cottage. An offer of £1 million or so, buyer to collect, should secure the lot. Spread a few Union Jacks about and Roberto's your uncle.

MARTIN WALLER



Peter Mandelson could pick up Portuguese junk for a song

Modest gains on the day

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
584	407½	Allied Domecq	568	+21	4.3	14.5
626	362½	Bulmer (HP)	372½	...	5.8	11.5
75½	35½	Fam Stewart	38½	+1	11.6	12.7
639½	424	Diageo	563	-2	3.2	17.2
1040	641½	Glenmorangie A	850	...	2.0	20.3
380	286	Highland Dist	288½	+2½	3.9	13.3
336	117½	Matthew Clark	166	...	15.1	5.4
109½	40½	Morland W	59½	...	6.5	
2009½	1313½	SA Breweries	1300½	+18½	2.6	

BANKS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1521½	918½	ABN-AMRO	1203½	+9½	2.6	17.6
1208	710	Abbey Ntl	1180	+23	2.9	19.3
870	632½	Alliance & Leic	843	-5	2.4	19.7
828½	368½	Allied Irish	811½	-9½	2.9	18.0
516½	363½	Arc New Z	415	+30	4.9	
4953½	2875	Bank America	4168½	-59½	...	
606	291½	Bank Scotland	580	+15	1.9	16.1
1800	978½	Barclays	1743	-8	2.4	16.6
981	517½	Bk of Ireland	945	-14½	2.2	20.7
6856½	6006½	Citicorp	7331¼	+99½		
1759½	1288½	Commerzbk	1819½	-16½	2.8	
862½	290½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	412½	+43½	1.0	
4595½	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3828½	-6½	1.6	
1300	759½	Espirito Santo	1190½		3.1	
947½	148	Fuji Bank Y	333½	+22½	1.2	83.7
2369½	1272½	HSBC	1420	-32	4.0	11.5
2258½	1226	HSBC HK	1347	-31	4.3	10.9
826	507	Halifax	805	+10	2.3	27.1
675	483½	Irish Perm	675	+10	2.3	18.7
860½	424	Lloyds TSB	795	-12½	2.2	33.2
1008	669½	Nat Aust Bk	893	+30	4.4	
1097	653½	Nat West	1055	-15	3.6	16.8
622½	449	Northern Rock	621½	+11½	1.8	24.5
861	508	Royal Bk Scott	864	+4	3.1	16.9
1093½	528	Stand Chart	560	-10	3.5	9.8
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
420½	315½	Westpac	420½	+25½	3.5	
373½	267½	Woolwich	340	+5	2.9	20.1

BREWERIES, PUBS & REST

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1000	695	Bass	916	+3	3.8	16.5
68½	43½	Brit for the Birt	50½	-3½	4.7	15.1
205	132½	Burtonwood Brwy	144½		6.1	12.7
159½	116	City Centre Rest	116	-1½	2.7	18.0
817	575½	Compass Gp	795	-19½	1.6	27.4
306	250	Eldridge P A	285½	-1	2.7	14.4
287½	221	Enterprise Inns	287½		3.3	15.8
486	412	Fuller Sm A	432½		3.0	13.9
586	310	Greenalls Grp	426	+6½	5.0	10.4
770	610	Greene King	744½	+1	2.8	15.2
237½	152½	Grosvenor Inns	212½	+3	3.8	22.1
232½	218½	Groupe Chez Ger	278½		1.4	22.5
298½	213½	Hardy Hanson	229½		6.4	
2850	2050	Holt J	2062½	-50	3.6	11.5
78	56	Inn Business	63		3.2	10.1
357	293	Mansfield	303		3.0	12.5
315½	252	Merston Thmp	274½		3.8	9.7
615	435	Morland	435		3.8	11.0
330½	210	Old Eng Pub	312½		1.0	24.7
47½	18½	Paramount	27½	-½		
853	527½	PizzaExpress	744	+5	0.6	38.5
437½	302½	Ransdens (H)	325		1.9	28.8
378½	262½	Regent Inns	313½	-5½	1.3	25.3
180	102½	SFI	157½	+4	0.6	33.6
785	566	Scot & Newt	749	+11	3.7	15.0
305	222½	Vaux Group	255½	-1½	5.4	10.8
339½	221	Wetherspoon JD	302½	-6	0.8	35.0
970	920	Whitbread	941	+20½	3.2	16.1
706½	430	Wolverhampton D	486		4.8	11.0
398½	279½	Yates Brost	392½	+3½	1.0	28.3
702½	615	Young A	642½		3.0	26.6

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

BUILDING MATERIALS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

CHEMICALS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

DISTRIBUTORS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
212½	143½	Action Cp Svs	189	-1½	1.7	19.0
410	275	Adam & Harvey	342½		8.2	5.2
21½	6½	Alexanders	7½		1.3	
90	51½	Appleyard	79½		5.7	
3½	1¾	Ass Br Eng	1½			88.6
530	425	BSS Group	427½		6.1	12.8
16½	13½	Bearing Power	13½			
29½	34½	Bogod A	34½	...	3.3	5.5
689	530	Bunzl	583		3.5	14.1
27	10½	Bridgend Gp	11½		3.2	52.5
119½	90½	Brit Fittings	90½	-2	6.2	7.2
365	320	Cattles	380		4.5	8.3
225	162½	Car Group	174½	-4	3.4	16.5
172½	117½	Caradale	149½		3.2	8.7
100	61½	Charles Colney	87½		4.5	12.6
59½	39½	Cook (DC)	47½		7.7	5.3
131	90½	Dag Motors	101	+1	9.9	6.6
134½	102½	Dennis Bt	117½	-½	3.2	9.2
400	215	Diploma	227½		8.0	9.2
502½	367½	Electrocomponents	502½	+7½	2.0	27.0
78½	25½	Eurocopy	28½		12.3	
226½	117½	Eurodis Elec	157	-½	4.1	30.7
105	76½	European Mtr	90		8.2	7.0
300	213	Evans Halshaw	281	+1	7.1	
55½	39½	Fife Indmar	42½	...	10.0	8.9
397½	275	Finelist Grp	382½		2.5	17.8
34½	19½	Gardiner	24½		4.9	9.0
79½	57½	Glenchewton	66½		3.0	10.8
110	82½	Gowrings	102½		3.8	17.0
15½	11	HR Owen	13½		6.9	8.9
103	20½	Hamlel	22½			2.1
374	284½	Headlam	353½	-1½	2.2	21.4
172	145	Holders Tech	150		5.4	12.1
240½	66½	ISA Intl	118½	+2	3.2	9.2
308½	137½	Inchcape	148	-½	8.3	9.7
72	49½	Jacks (Wm)	57½		5.4	7.4
373½	214½	Kwik-Fit	370½		2.0	20.3
474½	316½	Lex Service	450	-½	4.6	13.5
122	97	Lookers	108		9.4	7.6
57½	38½	ML Hldgs	53	-½	4.0	13.4
545	363	Menzies (John)	363	-6	4.8	10.8
9	4½	Middleaxe	4½		2.6	11.6
41½	10½	Midsales	18		3.3	
472	180	Norbain	281	-2½	3.9	11.4
243½	114½	Northamber	236½		1.4	16.5
352½	265½	Partco	327½	+3½	3.1	17.4
394½	254½	Pendragon	258½	-2½	4.9	11.4
223½	172½	Perry Gp	178½		6.4	7.9
751	384	Premier Farnell	384	-5	4.1	14.2
144½	116	Quick Group	120	+½	7.8	8.0
357	265	REA	275		1.8	60.8
2½	1½	Reece	2	+½		66.9
140½	33	Ring	35½	+2	7.7	8.9
28	9½	Ronson	11			
5½	1½	Ross Gp	4½			
109½	78½	Ryland	99½		5.1	9.4
38	24	SEP Ind	28½		5.7	
92½	23½	Salter	24½	-1	6.1	
415½	168	Time Products	170½	-½	9.1	7.0
347	155½	Trans Motor Grp	166½		8.4	7.3
430	228	UNIGCOT	430		1.7	23.0
94½	59	United Carriers Gp	92½	...	0.5	20.6
352½	237½	Vardy (Reg)	251½		3.9	11.7
685	488½	WF Elect	677	+6	2.8	13.2
41	25½	Wilmott	38½	+½	2.7	10.4
172½	111½	Wyko	148½		2.6	16.3
156½	119½	Young (H)	138½	+1	4.2	9.8

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

ELECTRICITY

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

ENGINEERING

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

HEALTHCARE

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

INSURANCE

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

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1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
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[illegible]						

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1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

SUPPORT SERVICES

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

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1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

TRANSPORT

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

WATER

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1997/98 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]						

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1997/98 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]						

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1997/98 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]						

LONGS (over 15 years)

1997/98 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]						

UNDATED

1997/98 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]						

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of: 5% 3%

1997/98 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
[illegible]						

Source: FT Information

Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures of adjusted; ... No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Independent Astec directors reject Emerson takeover offer

By Martin Barrow

A TAKEOVER battle has erupted at Astec (BSR), the electronics company, pitching non-executive directors against the controlling shareholder.

Emerson Electric, an American company that already owns 51.1 per cent of Astec, yesterday said it was ready to make an 111p-a-share cash offer for the outstanding equity, valuing the company at £342.5 million.

But the approach was swiftly rejected by independent directors of Astec, who described the terms as "wholly inadequate" and criticised Emerson's decision to bid for the company at this stage, taking advantage of a sharp fall in its share price.

Astec, which is based in Hong Kong with its shares listed in London, makes power transformers for personal computers. Over the past year it has become the victim of the weak semiconductor market and disappointing sales in Europe.

In August the company surprised the City when it announced a 1 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £13 million and warned investors that profits would remain under pressure for the rest of the financial year. The shares traded at a high of 164½p last year.

Yesterday Emerson gave notice of its intention to reconstitute the Astec "to better reflect the underlying ownership of the company", but said any changes would not affect the non-executive directors. It is also Emerson's intention to prevent Astec from paying further dividends "as long as it considers such payments to be contrary to the best interests of Astec and its shareholders". These steps would be taken "to protect the value of its investment", Emerson said.

The American company contends that Astec is poorly placed in its current shape to weather adverse trading conditions that have been made worse by the economic problems in Asia, precipitating the need for significant investment in the business. Emerson said it believed the full impact of these problems had not yet been fully reflected in Astec's share price.

The seven dissident Astec directors, including four non-executives, challenged Emerson's criticism of their company, claiming its has significantly overstated the adverse impact of the Asian crisis while underplaying the strength of Astec's balance sheet. The non-executives are Brian Christopher, Peter Marshall, Robin Gourlay and Rod Olsen.

Russian oil firm ranks third in world

By Jeremy Riggall

VICTOR Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister, yesterday attended the signing of the proposed merger of two of Russia's leading oil producers, Yukos and Sibneft, creating the world's third-largest oil company.

Analysts said that this was the first big Western-style corporate transaction in Russia, and paved the way for consolidation among leading private companies.

The merger will create a new company, named Yuksi, with the largest proven oil reserves in the world. With production of 475 million barrels of crude oil last year, Yuksi will be the third-largest producer globally, behind Royal Dutch/Shell and Exxon, with a refining capacity of 415 million barrels a year.

The merger will make the companies more attractive to international capital markets and allow internal and external growth from synergies in production and distribution. Analysts said that Yuksi will be very attractive to investors in equity and debt markets, and is likely to become a benchmark for foreign investment in the Russian energy sector.

In December, Yukos bought Easter Oil and increased its oil reserves from 9.75 billion barrels to 11.75 billion. Once integrated with Sibneft, Yuksi will have oil reserves of 13.9 billion barrels. This is the four times the proved oil reserves of BP, and nearly twice those of Shell. Yuksi will be far larger than Lukoil, previously the largest Russian oil company. The merger makes a strategic partnership, possibly similar to that of Gazprom and Royal Dutch/Shell, even likelier. Sibneft executives have already held talks with US oil companies and Elf-Aquitaine, the French company, and bankers said that they would continue.

Mikhail Khodorkovsky, who is to be president of Yuksi, said: "The objective of this combination is to create a world-scale and world-class integrated oil company with strategically located operations throughout Russia. The transaction also reflects a trend towards consolidation in the industry, creating a smaller number of better capitalised and more globally competitive Russian oil companies."

Ashtead to spend £40m on expansion

By Chris Ayres

ASHTEAD, the maverick plant hire group, yesterday predicted a wave of consolidation in the US and UK rental markets, and said it had a further £40 million to spend on acquisitions.

The company, which describes itself as an outsourcing group in spite of protests from some analysts, has already spent nearly £40 million buying Sheriff, its UK rival. Shares in Ashtead have risen sevenfold in value over the past four years, and the company yesterday reported another rise in profits and sales.

Peter Lewis, the company's chairman, said: "We will at some stage play a part in the US consolidation, but will wait until the prices come down to a more realistic level. In the UK we will certainly be in the frame for acquisitions, and we have some small ones coming through."

Shares in Ashtead stayed put at their five-year high of 193½p yesterday. Mr Lewis yesterday defended Ashtead's fast growth and its claim to be an outsourcing company. "We have a uniquely large marketing department which goes out to clients and gives rental solutions to their problems," he said.

"We think laterally. It's an illustration of the change in this industry that's taking place. There's been more change in the past five years than in the previous 30."

Ashtead yesterday reported a 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to October 10, from £14.4 million to £17.2 million, on turnover of £94.8 million (£74.4 million). Earnings per share rose from 7.63p to 9.16p. A dividend of 0.83p, up from 0.72p, will be paid on April 6.

Tempus, page 30

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Lateral thinkers: Peter Lewis, left, and George Burnett, Ashtead managing director

Five years jail for Jersey financier

By A Correspondent

A JERSEY-BASED trust and company administrator who turned in desperation to a Nigerian "get rich quick" scam after taking £1.3 million of his clients' money, was jailed for five years by the island's Royal Court yesterday. David John Stilwell, 38, gave £97,000 over three years to Nigerian fraudsters and never saw a penny back.

The court heard that Stilwell, originally from Bristol, was refused a licence by the Jersey financial authorities but still set himself up in business as a trust and company administrator. Crown Advocate Cyril Whelan, for the prosecution, said that Stilwell was a member of the Institute of Financial Accountants, which did not require professional qualifications.

Over five years he took £1.35 million from client accounts, using the money to buy properties, clear debts and fund his personal lifestyle. He also started taking money from one account to repay what he had taken from another — in his own words a "robbing Peter to pay Paul situation".

Stilwell kept no records and it took Deloitte & Touche, the forensic accountant, two-and-a-half years to investigate the "intricate and tortuous movement of funds". Mr Whelan said, "at a cost of tens of thousand pounds to the taxpayers of Jersey". Of the £1.3 million about £844,000 has not been recovered.

Advocate Julie Melia, for the defence, said that Stilwell had suffered two broken marriages, an alcohol problem and a nervous breakdown.

Deputy-Bailiff Francis Hamon, in announcing sentence, said that the offences were a blatant breach of trust that had not helped the financial reputation of the island.

Robson named after shake-up at Amec

AMEC, the UK construction group, yesterday announced a management shake-up, with David Robson appointed to the new post of chief operating officer. The company also said it was benefiting from a generally favourable market and said it expected 1997 results to be in line with expectations, with the current order book up 7 per cent at £2.9 billion. However, the company said a review of completed contract carrying values would result in a loss at its building business in 1997, even though the current contract portfolio was yielding satisfactory margins. Amec shares rose 5p to 121½p yesterday despite the news.

Mr Robson, 52, was appointed to the Amec board in 1991, having worked for the group since 1962 when he joined Press Construction. Previously responsible for Amec's energy and infrastructure service companies, he will be directly responsible to Peter Mason, the chief executive, for the profit performance of all group businesses, with the exception of Fairclough Homes Ltd, Morse Diesel International and its manufacturing and investment businesses. Mr Mason, who returned to full-time duties earlier this month after a three-month absence for illness, also announced the appointment of Malcolm Eckersall to the new position of business development director.

Cardiff Property ahead

THE CARDIFF PROPERTY, the investment and development company that specialises in property close to Heathrow airport, reported a rise in net asset value to 317p a share from 264p in the year ended September 30. Pre-tax profits improved to £474,417 from £292,533, with earnings rising to 13.7p a share from 7.7p. A final dividend of 2.10p a share makes a total of 3.1p, up from 2.85p previously. Net assets rose to £10.5 million from £8.8 million. Richard Wollenberg, chairman, said the company would make further progress in the current year. The shares rose 5p to 273½p yesterday.

Nomura hit by ban

NOMURA SECURITIES, the Japanese brokerage, suffered a fall in pre-tax profits to 21.4 billion yen (about £100 million) from 103.7 billion yen in the nine months ended December 31. The decline reflects the adverse impact of a dealings suspension imposed by Tokyo financial regulators because of the firm's alleged involvement in a gangster scandal. Between August 6 and December 31, the brokerage was suspended from equity dealings on its own account because of the payoff scandal involving a *sokaiya* corporate extortionist.

Mitie makes progress

MITIE GROUP, the support and building services company, lifted pre-tax profits to £4.8 million, from £3.3 million, in the half-year to September 30, on turnover that improved to £108.6 million from £91.3 million. Earnings improved to 4.4p a share from 3.2p. David Telling, chairman, said that the company was making satisfactory progress in the second half and was likely to maintain the progress of previous years. The interim dividend is increased to 1.1p a share, from 0.9p. The shares rose 5p to 262½p yesterday.

Alliance in the pipeline

BRITISH STEEL has announced an alliance with two German companies to produce its large diameter pipes. The move, subject to regulatory approval, will see the company's Hartlepool and Stockton mills working with Europipe, a company set up by the German outfits. British Steel said it would safeguard the viability of the mills. British Steel will own a third of the new company. The division would move from an annual turnover of £19 million at Stockton and £76 million at Hartlepool to a £334 million venture.

New plan for Bank

FRANCE is expected to submit a new rescue plan for state-controlled bank Credit Lyonnais to address European Commission concerns about the measures' impact on competition. Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the Finance Minister, met Karel Van Miert, the EC Commissioner, yesterday to discuss the plan in more detail. France and the Commission have verbally sparred over the cost of rescuing the bank, which almost collapsed in the early 1990s. Sources have estimated the minimum cost at £12 billion.

Lazio flotation nearer

LAZIO, the Italian football club, yesterday moved closer to a listing on the Milan stock market after shareholders gave a thumbs up to the club's flotation plan. An extraordinary meeting at the weekend approved the flotation of the Rome-based Serie A club, owned by Sergio Cragnotti's Cirio food group. The club expects to break even in the financial year ending June 30, and see "a major improvement in revenues," said a Lazio source. Lazio expects its shares to be quoted at a price above a minimum 1,300 lire (45p) per share.

Porterbrook order

PORTERBROOK, the rolling stock leasing company owned by Stagecoach, is placing a second speculative train order worth an estimated £25 million. The new trains, to be built by Adtranz, will be delivered in early 1999 and will be made available to train operating companies on short-term rental agreements. Stagecoach announced a £25 million order for diesel trains last November, the first speculative rolling stock since rail privatisation.

Volvo pays £49m for NFC truck rental division

By Chris Ayres

VOLVO Contract Services, a subsidiary of the Volvo Group, is set to invest £100 million in NFC's truck rental and contract hire division, which it bought yesterday for £49 million in cash.

The division was put up for sale as part of a massive disposal programme by NFC, the business logistics and house moving group headed by Gerry Murphy. The strategy has already raised an estimated £156 million.

NFC has seen its shares slump from 287p four years ago to a low of 123½p in June last year. However, confidence in the group is beginning to build, and NFC's shares rose 10p to 150p yesterday.

Volvo said the NFC division, BRS, was one of the strongest brands in the industry, and fitted its long-term strategy of expansion in the UK.

Barrie Cload, managing director of Volvo Contract Services, added: "One of the issues in the negotiations was that the fleet was ageing. We will invest in it over the next three years and hope to eventually have 3,500 trucks. At the moment we have 1,100, with the average price of a truck being about £40,000."

Mr Murphy said the sale was part of the process of concentrating on NFC's international service businesses of contract logistics and moving services.

South West Water sends writ to BFI

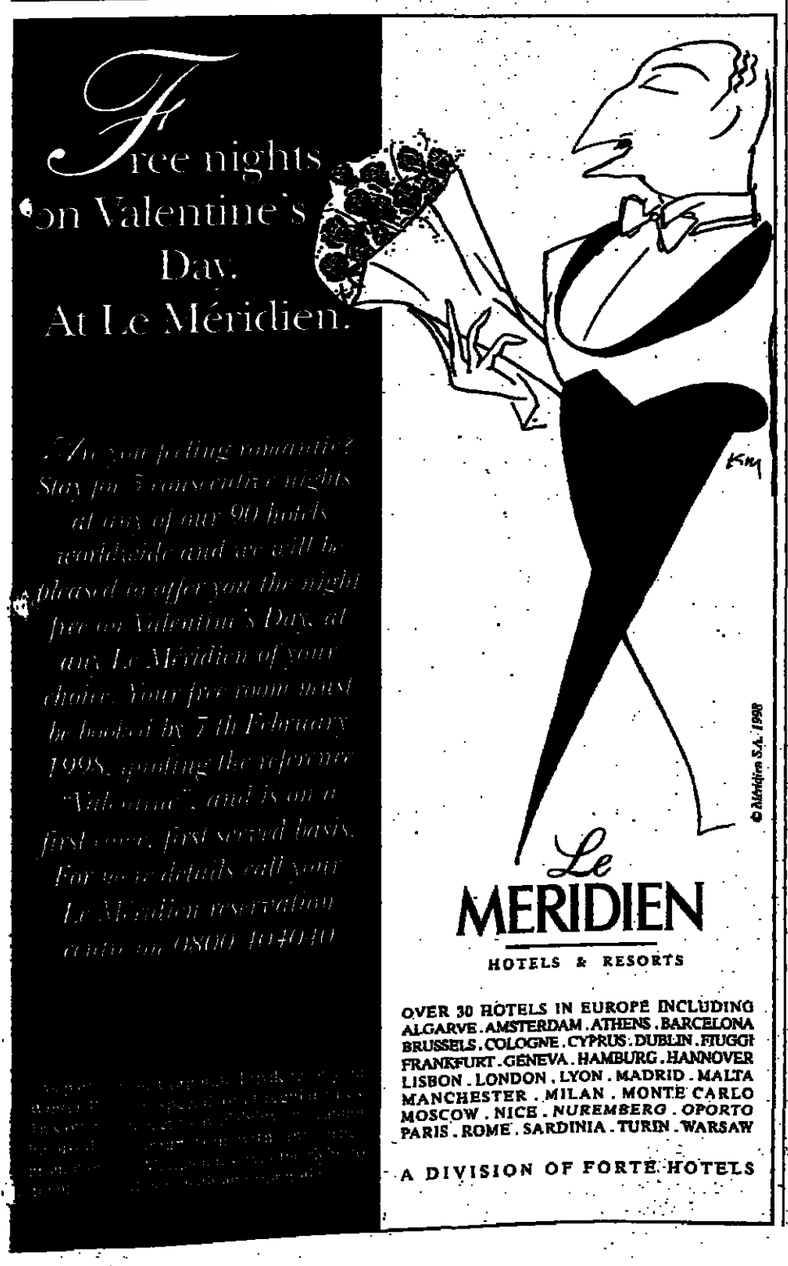
SOUTH WEST WATER has issued a writ against one of America's biggest waste disposal companies, demanding that it pay £10 million plus interest and legal expenses after apparently reneging on a contract (Chris Ayres writes).

The writ has been issued against Browning-Ferris Industries and its international subsidiaries. BFI, which collects rubbish in Kensington, Chelsea, Oxfordshire and Dorset, is currently selling all its European operations for an estimated £1 billion.

South West Water also owns Haul-Waste, one of Britain's largest waste operations.

The writ also demands that BFI pay interest of £75,000 up to the date the writ was issued, plus £2,200 in interest per day.

A spokeswoman for BFI said: "We have received the writ and at this time are not prepared to respond. When we do, it will be through the judicial system."



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AIB GOVETT UNIT TRUST LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing 0171 407 7666				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	138.14	147.20	+0.49	
Do NAV to Mar 20	134.56	134.56		
UK Equity Safeguard	109.42	116.98	-0.76	2.47
Do NAV to Mar 20	105.85	105.85		
Cash	959.58	964.38		5.75
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	385.90	410.60	+6.90	1.65
UK Small Cos	82.08	87.77	+0.24	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	99.17	106.06	+0.50	2.11
Geared UK Index	2405.36	2538.26	+41.00	5.75
Income Funds				
Corp Bd	82.74	85.60	-0.12	...
Monthly Inc	43.13	46.20†	+0.21	6.72
International Funds				
American Gen	291.00	308.60	+1.50	
American Strat	228.88	244.78	+2.87	
JG US Index	2319.60	2444.02		4.00
European Gen	328.80	347.60	+1.50	0.68
European Strat	141.31	151.13	+0.96	...
Japan Gen	108.50	115.00	-0.40	
Asia Pacific	61.87	65.83	+1.65	1.08
Pacific Strat	96.66	103.37	+3.79	
Greater China	166.48	179.05	+8.84	
Latin America	99.77	106.69†	+2.07	
Int Growth	163.31	174.65	+1.69	
Balanced Exempt	160.30	166.10		2.29
Global Strategy	45.62	48.78	+0.19	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	857.10	911.80	+6.20	2.49
General Inc	698.50	743.00	+5.00	2.49
UK Growth Acc	592.50	630.30	+4.60	2.46
UK Growth Inc	374.90	398.40	+2.90	2.46
Higher Inc Acc #	1108.00	1178.00	+8.00	4.63
Higher Inc Inc #	568.90	605.20	+4.50	4.63
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	234.70	248.00	-0.60	5.56
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	97.76	103.20	-0.40	5.56
N American	420.60	447.40	+4.80	
Europe	458.70	487.90	+1.60	0.58
Brit Excell	117.60	125.10	+0.90	2.31
Brit Fndmtls Acc	149.70	159.20	+0.90	4.37
Brit Fndmtls Inc	95.98	102.10	+0.60	4.37
Global Opps	111.30	118.40	+1.10	0.26
Balanced Acc	74.12	78.85	+0.51	2.34
Balanced Inc	67.82	72.14	+0.47	2.34
Japan Acc	35.01	37.24	+0.38	
Pac Basin Acc	264.50	281.30	+12.00	2.37
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	144.90	153.80†	-0.20	5.81
High Inc Equity	225.70	241.40†	+2.70	4.18
Worldwide Bond	274.20	290.70	-2.40	3.45
American Growth	523.20	558.90†	+3.70	0.22
Asian Pacific	195.00	208.60	-8.90	0.59
Asset & Earnings	354.00	378.60	+4.70	2.70
Euro Capital Acc	243.70	260.60	+1.30	0.76
Extra Inc	42.41	45.12†	+0.16	9.32
General	327.40	348.30	+4.40	2.82
Global Opps	75.22	80.02	+0.74	0.40
Japan	76.07	81.36	+1.05	
Managed Inc	52.76	56.13†	+0.30	4.54
Mastertrust	185.48	198.30	+1.90	1.12
US Emerging Cos	214.00	228.90	+1.20	
Ethical	94.19	100.20	+0.52	1.83
International	139.40	148.30	+1.60	0.58
Dividend & Growth	82.93	88.22†	-1.02	3.89
Global Gwth & Sec	78.34	83.69	+0.22	2.41
Latin America	74.11	78.84	+1.40	0.65
Capital Reserve	154.70	154.70	-0.30	4.52
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
N&P UK Growth	115.30	122.60	+1.10	1.78
Equity Income #	164.00	174.40	+1.70	3.56
Extra Income #	312.10	331.20	+2.10	4.48
Smaller Cos	102.80	109.30		2.07
International	129.60	137.60	+1.00	1.22
ABERDEEN PROLIFIC UT MGRS LTD				
Enq: 0345 888 686 Dlg: 0800 833 580				
Amer Opp Acc	372.10	392.70	+2.10	
Emrg Mkts Inc	57.00	60.31†	+1.82	0.37
Ethical Inc	87.02	92.07†	-1.13	7.19
Euro Gwth Inc	116.50	122.90	+0.60	0.76
Euro Spec Opps Acc	120.00	127.00	+0.10	
Extra Inc Inc	220.90	233.10†	+2.00	4.11
Extra Inc Acc	302.10	318.80	+2.60	4.11
FE Emg Econ	72.55	76.76†	+2.45	0.70
Fixed Int Inc #	28.32	29.72	+0.01	7.98
Frontier Mkt Inc	72.83	77.06	+0.90	8.18
Fund Of Inv Inc #	191.73	202.88†	+1.58	9.10
Fund Of Inv Acc	406.18	429.81	+3.35	9.10
Gilt Inc Inc #	50.32	53.08†	-0.02	6.22
Global Bond Inc	41.28	43.06	-0.31	5.41
Global Inc Inc	31.17	32.06	-0.38	4.47
Global Inc Acc	47.91	50.41	+0.06	4.47
High Inc Inc	167.00	176.70	-1.60	3.76
High Inc Acc	221.70	234.50	+2.10	3.76
Japan Inc	146.73	155.23	+0.24	
Latin Amer Inc	63.70	67.39	-2.29	0.17
Master Inc Inc	61.30	64.85†	+0.59	3.13
Master Gwth Inc	55.90	59.15	+0.43	0.34
North Amer Inc	259.00	272.60	+1.10	
North Amer Acc	258.30	272.90	+1.10	
Pacific Inc	55.65	58.88	+2.22	0.17
Prop Share Inc	96.13	101.71†	+2.54	1.12
Recovery Inc	106.40	112.60	+1.00	2.10
Recovery Acc	121.00	128.00	+1.10	2.10
Special Sit Inc	169.80	179.60	+1.40	1.57
Special Sit Acc	192.20	203.30†	+1.70	1.57
Tech Inc	754.80	796.50	+4.30	
Tech Acc	754.80	796.50	+4.30	
UK Blue Chip Inc	112.80	119.10	+1.80	2.57
UK Blue Chip Acc	135.10	142.60	+1.60	2.57
UK Emg Co Inc	76.13	81.21†	+0.76	0.92
UK Gwth Inc	70.90	74.70	+0.87	1.22
World Port Inc #	89.07	94.25†	+1.06	2.96
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2510.00	2614.00		
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5888				
Recstl Property #	112.10	119.20	+1.00	4.80
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	110.36	117.09	+0.31	1.70
Income Builder Inc	98.77	105.07†	-0.70	3.02
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cricnd Dst Pens	139.50	144.90		
Foundn Pensl Pens	81.74	84.92		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
American Sm Cos	442.80	470.40	+4.20	
Bond	123.10	123.50†	-0.10	6.43
Brit Smlr Cos	112.60	119.80†	-0.10	1.90
Europe	356.20	378.00†	+2.20	
Euro Smlr Cos	124.80	132.90	+0.10	
High Income #	71.17	75.71	+0.35	5.41
Income	423.80	450.80	-2.20	3.98
Japan	289.00	306.30	-0.70	
Latin American	102.60	109.10	-2.40	
Pacific	66.60	70.85†	+4.23	1.13
UK Smlr Cos	62.55	67.07†	-0.05	1.29
Japanese Sm Cos	470.90	485.80	-2.90	
Mngd Fd	242.90	257.80	-1.20	2.42
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Bal & Cbenc	423.90	453.60		0.77
Capital Gwth	163.20	172.60		2.44
Worldn Opps	234.90	249.30		0.90
BARCLAYS FUNDS LTD				
Customer Help Desk 0131 522 4000				
Income Funds				
Cash	100.30	100.30†		6.75
Cash Acc	131.80	131.80	-0.10	6.75
Income #	714.90	762.50*	-5.30	3.95
Income Builder #	27.55	29.02	-0.17	4.43
Balanced Funds				
Exempt	109.10	116.10	-1.90	2.14
500	531.70	571.70	-2.10	1.96
General	415.70	444.30	-5.50	1.68
Property	266.30	280.00		5.56
Tracker	293.50	308.40†	-3.70	1.64
Growth Funds - UK				
Capital	186.10	198.90	-1.70	1.69
FTSE 100	134.90	142.10†	-1.90	1.74
Growth Acc	586.10	623.50	-6.50	1.42
Smaller Cos	62.67	66.73	+0.22	2.33
Smaller Cos Acc	75.40	80.04	+0.29	2.33
Growth Funds - Overseas				
America	234.30	247.70	+1.20	0.04
American Growth	163.20	172.30	-2.90	
Japan	96.92	102.30	-1.52	
Japan Acc	97.94	103.50	-1.60	
Japan Spec Sits	43.49	46.06	-0.07	
Worldwide	214.40	227.70	-2.50	0.35
Barclays Investment Portfolios				
Managed Income	47.85	50.45	-0.09	3.10
Mngd Gwth & Inc #	47.21	49.81	-0.14	4.50
Managed Growth	47.17	50.15	+0.58	1.50
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	181.70	192.70	[illegible]	
Amer Smllr Cos	165.50	176.00	[illegible]	
Eastern	151.90	163.10	[illegible]	
Equity Income #	127.90	136.20	[illegible]	
European Growth	498.50	527.30	[illegible]	
Europe	432.70	462.30	[illegible]	
German Growth	183.70	195.30	[illegible]	
Global Bond	74.07	78.24	[illegible]	
Global Growth	175.60	186.40	[illegible]	
Japan Growth	108.00	114.20	[illegible]	
Japan Search	75.40	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Korea Trust	25.42	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Portfolio	176.30	187.60	+3.30	2.00
-do- Accum	341.50	362.40	[illegible]	
UK Growth	134.60	143.70	[illegible]	
UK Smaller Cos	129.70	140.40	[illegible]	
Select Managers	96.39	102.20	[illegible]	
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	107.90	109.40		
Special Opps Inc	55.61	60.12		
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	136.22	139.70	-0.26	1.62
-do- Accum	220.23	227.95	-0.37	1.62
Smaller Cos	187.68	195.90	-0.52	0.43
Higher Yield #	71.91	74.80†	-1.33	3.67
American Str Inc	134.45	140.78	+1.79	
European Growth	197.44	205.61	+1.13	
-do- Accum	201.61	209.07	+1.22	
Fixed Prtfo Inc	63.73	67.15	-1.64	1.17
-do- Accum	61.05	64.22	-0.61	1.17
Intl Spec Opps	128.61	134.65	+0.23	
Pacific Grth	95.54	101.73	+4.54	2.00
UK General #	165.56	176.74*	-2.19	2.15
-do- Accum #	137.18	142.62	-1.39	2.15
Japan	74.93	78.33	-0.78	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	110.78	115.30	-0.57	1.20
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.34	67.90		0.06 6.13
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Enviro	239.00	251.50†	-1.70	1.52
UK Growth	274.30	289.70	-1.70	1.49
UK Income	136.30	145.50	-1.30	3.35
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 832 100				
Can Gen Dist	176.40	186.40	+1.30	1.17
-do- Income Dist	159.60	168.50	+1.60	3.00
-do- Accum	536.20	566.30	-3.90	3.00
Gilt & Fixed Inc	44.45	46.03	-0.09	4.93
Growth Units	300.10	323.70	+3.00	1.05
Bond	192.50	202.60	-0.20	1.05
Intl Growth	207.30	218.00	-1.60	1.33
North American	309.00	325.50	+2.30	
Far East	172.70	184.70	+4.50	1.20
UK Smaller Cos	113.70	123.50	-0.60	1.52
European	114.40	121.70	-0.60	0.52
Japanese Growth	29.54	31.29	-0.33	
High Income	277.90	295.20	+2.60	3.39
Emerging Mkts	130.49	139.88	-1.68	0.12
Portfolio	96.38	102.51	-0.75	1.37
UK Income Inc	121.00	128.76	-1.20	3.61
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 837 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7465				
American & Gen	298.70	305.80	-3.50	
European Inc	121.80	129.30	-1.40	0.35
Smaller Cos (+7)	112.50	117.70	-0.02	1.87
Growth	187.10	197.40	-2.50	1.91
Income & Growth #	386.40	412.90	-4.30	4.17
-do- Accum #	503.20	533.30	-7.90	4.17
Japan & Gen	49.63	52.69	-2.43	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Hallmark Gwth	1487.00	1549.00†	+12.00	1.57
-do- Accum	1870.80	1948.00	+14.00	1.57
Special Sits	159.00	169.20†	+1.10	1.91
High Yield	1900.00	1969.00	+11.00	3.59
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	114.69	121.91†	+0.70	2.29
American Portfolio	164.62	174.78	+0.70	0.46
European Portfolio	164.58	174.88	+1.00	0.36
High Income	56.26	59.23	-0.06	6.42
Japanese Portfolio	45.65	48.39†	+0.62	
Pacific Portfolio	106.29	114.30	+4.41	1.26
UK Equity	115.71	123.25	+0.96	2.91
UK Equity & Bd	69.09	73.16	+0.19	5.21
UK Smlr Cos	56.24	60.15	+0.18	1.91
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	918.67	932.55		3.77
Inv Fd Acc	9500.00	9864.45		
Fxd Int Sec Inc	167.85	168.53		8.49
Fxd Int Sec Acc	179.46	180.18		
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	910.20	923.95		3.77
Investment Acc	4430.28	4497.08		
Fixed Int Inc	135.00	135.54		8.56
Fixed Int Acc	274.03	279.13		8.58
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Beckman Intl	101.41	106.83		5.80
Beck Bio-Tech	39.86	43.06†		
Acorn Ethical Tst	223.58	238.28†		0.52
City Fin Assets	87.14	91.50	+1.21	2.88
City Fin Intl	83.27	88.59		0.06
Fdarc Hsa Cap	383.17	407.83†	+15.26	2.21
Beckley Mrsd Gth	139.74	148.12		
Shaw Unitikes	89.22	90.96	+0.95	3.30
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	45.47	48.31	+1.23	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	99.65	106.01	+1.22	
Dragon Growth	42.49	45.44	+1.25	1.58
Equity High Inc	119.69	126.65	+1.03	2.95
-do- Accum	180.86	191.17	+1.55	2.95
Extra Income Inc	29.02	30.55†	-0.06	5.84
Extra Income Acc	34.18	35.98	-0.08	5.84
European Gwth	82.45	87.25	+0.23	0.06
Evergreen	35.69	38.17	+0.11	
General Equity	137.05	144.64	+1.05	2.21
Japan Growth	33.35	35.46	+0.21	
Pedigree Gwth	83.63	88.49	+1.05	1.38
Ped Sm Cos Inc	43.28	45.80	+0.14	1.26
-do- Accum	45.60	48.31	+0.14	1.26
Retirement Inc #	34.72	36.94	+0.18	4.88
Special Sits	58.82	61.10	+0.36	2.22
UK & Overseas	68.21	72.18	+0.53	0.42
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	82.63	86.07	+0.37	3.47
Capital	100.52	104.70	+0.75	1.90
High Income	57.48	59.88	-0.09	6.33
Top 50	75.24	78.37	+0.67	1.86
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	231.22	240.88	+1.16	4.21
Long Gilt	51.50	53.61†	-0.16	4.77
Monthly Inc Plus	80.31	82.83	-0.20	7.13
Preference Share	58.83	61.29†	-0.19	6.36
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	169.49	178.57†	+0.42	5.46
Managed Fund	86.77	90.99	+0.68	2.35
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	52.91	55.12	+0.26	1.54
-do- Accum	63.28	65.92	+0.31	1.54
UK & General	126.44	131.72	+1.27	2.06
-do- Accum	169.44	176.52	+1.70	2.06
UK Growth	251.50	262.01	+2.04	1.50
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	274.47	285.94	+1.18	0.47
Far Eastern Gth	92.94	96.82	+2.48	0.29
Global Bond	72.58	75.61	-0.53	5.07
Japan Growth	87.67	91.33	+0.73	
North Amer Gth	308.93	321.84	+3.18	
Oriental Growth	53.77	56.02	+2.01	0.87
Worldwide Growth	81.25	84.64	+0.84	0.31
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.93	92.93	+0.04	6.74
Homemaker Fund	103.12	109.71	+1.22	1.97
Quilter Fund	178.17	189.54	+2.38	1.69
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Consistent UT	42.43	45.28		2.74
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	200.60	213.38	+1.20	1.98
Income	90.73	96.52	+0.73	3.55
European Growth	94.41	100.15	+0.38	0.10
Recovery	214.20	227.90	-0.60	1.85
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 263 9494				
Equity Dist	1203.20	1220.90†		3.03
CREDIT SUISSE ASSET MGMT FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
European Inc	85.42	90.60	+0.42	0.35
Fellowship Tst	125.60	133.60	+0.60	1.10
Income #	346.70	368.80	+3.00	3.77
-do- Accum #	957.90	1019.00	+8.00	3.84
Smaller Cos	244.40	260.00†	+2.00	0.71
-do- Accum	306.50	326.00	+1.50	0.71
Gth Portfolio	120.90	128.60	+1.40	1.23
Mthly Inc Port #	103.20	109.70	+1.00	3.81
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1760.10	1779.80		0.58
UK Small Cos	2345.30	2445.40†		2.81
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	256.10	264.00		
DRESDNER RCM FUNDS (UK) LTD				
Dealer: 0171 956 7354 Client Helpline 0800 317 573				
Formerly KBUT				
Amer Smllr Cos	193.90	206.20	+2.00	
Asian Growth	166.30	176.90	+8.40	0.40
Bond Income	110.00	114.10†		6.60
European	236.80	251.90	+0.20	0.50
European Pro	125.60	133.60†	+0.40	0.40
European Special	164.30	174.70	+0.90	
Gilt Yield	129.80	136.80†	-0.30	6.20
Global Eqty Inc	137.20	145.50	+1.60	1.60
High Yield	204.60	217.60†	+1.40	4.30
Japan	288.70	307.10	+6.00	
Japanese Special	128.40	136.50	+2.50	
Money Market	103.02	103.02†	+0.04	6.10
North American	141.00	149.90†	+1.60	
Smaller Cos	166.30	176.90†	+0.40	0.90
Smllr Cos Dist	70.10	74.57	+0.28	3.60
Tomorrows Co Ex	1138.00	1219.00†	+16.00	0.10
UK Equity Growth	62.30	66.27	-0.73	1.10
UK Inner Inc	420.10	430.20	-3.10	2.80
Eastern Tst	121.60	127.00	-4.50	1.80
Global Income	254.00	270.20	+1.50	3.00
Formerly Thornton				
European	407.40	426.50	+0.15	0.30
Europa Ed	38.97	40.52	-0.41	6.50
Exempt	869.50	903.70†	+10.82	2.50
Global Em Mkts	71.95	75.33	+0.75	0.60
Japan Tst	64.56	67.60	+0.92	
Little Dragons	62.20	65.13	+1.72	
Nth Amer Gwth	393.70	412.10†	+2.61	0.48
Oriental Income #	34.99	36.63	-0.44	5.10
Preference	152.90	160.10	-0.83	7.40
Tiger	172.20	180.20	+5.74	
UK Blue Chip	108.50	113.00†	+1.60	1.30
UK Growth	833.10	877.50	+12.23	0.80
UK High Yield #	149.00	155.90†	+1.40	4.30
UK Mid-Cap	357.60	416.30	+5.11	[illegible]
UK Smlr Cos Dis #	91.36	95.66†	-0.20	5.80
UK Smlr Cos	143.30	149.90	-0.20	0.70
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
Commerciale #	25.08	26.65†	-0.06	5.25
Enterprise	124.10	131.50†	+0.10	1.90
Equity Income #	172.90	180.10†	+1.10	3.27
European	78.11	82.63†	+0.02	
Financial	73.85	78.47	-0.37	1.27
Growth & Inc #	368.80	377.90	+2.80	2.23
High Dist #	228.30	242.40	+1.50	3.51
International	439.50	467.00	+5.30	
Jt Cap Inc	113.90	126.90†	+0.56	2.13
Latin American	33.83	35.94	+0.96	
Mgd Gwth Port	99.91	104.30		0.67
Pacific	62.17	66.06	+1.96	
Pref High Inc	26.37	28.02†	0.02	5.10
Tokyo	147.30	155.70	+2.10	
UK Smaller Cos	263.30	286.10	+0.20	1.22
Japan Sml Cos	234.90	248.70	+0.50	
Nth Amer	521.30	561.90	+5.70	
UK Inc & Gth	331.20	352.70	+1.70	2.27
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
S71 Director Opps	130.71	139.21	+5.15	0.93
Growth Acc	323.54	344.59	+2.08	0.22
Income	664.24	710.66	+0.24	5.24
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7267				
Endurance Fd	244.70	260.70		0.91
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	115.63	123.70	+0.66	1.29
Ethical Tst	54.00	57.70†	+0.23	0.92
Far Eastern	208.55	220.59	+2.36	0.09
High Income	179.16	192.53	-0.62	3.93
UK Index Tracking	68.20	72.39	+0.48	2.43
Intl Growth	135.32	142.44	+1.63	1.43
North American	193.50	206.70	+1.89	[illegible]
Pelican	135.30	[illegible]	-0.60	[illegible]
Smaller Cos	77.02	81.02	+0.31	[illegible]
Special Sits	93.35	97.56	+0.62	2.17
Trust of Inv Tsts	231.17	249.65	+1.31	1.63
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	145.32	154.82	+2.27	
Fund of Inv Tsts	60.12	63.73	+0.75	0.45
High Income #	45.91	48.68†	+0.57	10.27
Hum & Gl Opps	54.56	58.60	+1.00	
Zero Preference	49.75	52.79†	+0.17	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 724 570				
Family Asset Tst	122.60	130.40†	+1.00	2.06
Homes Charities	165.80	175.50	+2.00	2.19
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		6.26
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	25.42	27.45	-0.21	5.32
Moneybuilder Inc	30.75	32.12†	-0.05	5.29
Income Funds				
High Income	[illegible]	37.93†	-0.39	4.55
Income Plus	76.80	80.80	-1.20	3.70
European Income	63.25	67.17	[illegible]	1.67
Moneybuilder Gwth	[illegible]	[illegible]		2.79
Equity Funds				
ACE PEPs	25.09	27.40	[illegible]	
American	427.30	455.50	[illegible]	
Amer Spec Sits	222.30	237.00	-1.60	
Asian Smaller Cos	17.58	18.46	+0.15	
European	296.80	315.70	-0.52	0.34
European Opps	111.30	118.20	[illegible]	0.48
Global Pens	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	0.40
UK Growth	133.00	141.00	-1.20	1.15
Growth & Inc	231.90	246.60†	-2.50	2.41
Intl PEP	60.73	64.63	+0.57	1.07
Japan Spec Sits	54.73	58.35	+0.56	
Japan	181.90	191.90	-0.50	
Managed Intl	430.50	457.20	+3.00	0.53
Moneybuilder Pfoc	76.50	81.20	+0.41	0.34
Recovery	68.79	72.15	-0.04	1.67
South E Asia	135.91	145.10	+6.50	1.14
Special Sits	934.10	994.50	+6.30	1.14
Specialist Funds				
Cash Account Units	123.21	123.21	+0.05	5.70
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	164.06	165.73		1.52
Fnshry Pri Inc #	112.10	113.70	-0.10	5.63
Cap Pluss	189.70	191.10†	+1.30	
General Opps	166.30	168.00		3.22
Growth Inc	48.52	48.95	+0.44	1.13
Private Portfolio	557.00	563.30		0.75

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 385 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	175.30	188.20	-0.10	
High Income	22.64	24.01†	+0.13	9.37
Japan Smlr Cos	11.46	12.35	-0.20	
US Smaller Cos	542.10	578.40	+3.50	
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	104.70	111.00	+0.80	
-do- Accum	104.70	111.00	+0.80	
Amer Smlr Cos	765.10	814.30	+9.10	
-do- Accum	781.60	831.80	+9.40	
Capital Tst	423.80	450.90	+1.20	1.26
-do- Accum	630.90	671.20	+1.80	1.26
Cmdt Smlr Cos	66.19	70.59	+0.37	
-do- Accum	71.03	75.74	+0.39	
Convertible	149.40	158.90†	+3.20	5.38
-do- Accum	347.20	369.40†	+7.50	5.38
Emerging Markets	54.95	58.71	+1.58	0.07
-do- Accum	55.62	59.21†	+1.59	0.07
European	194.00	205.40	+1.00	
-do- Accum	206.30	218.50	+1.20	
Extra Income	479.10	509.70†	+2.40	3.99
-do- Accum	798.00	848.90†	+3.90	3.99
Financial	246.80	262.60	+1.40	0.94
-do- Accum	264.30	281.20	+1.40	0.94
Gilt Trust	64.50	66.50	+0.11	7.04
-do- Accum	106.20	109.50	-0.10	7.04
Health Fund Inc	282.40	300.40	+2.30	
-do- Accum	282.40	300.40	+2.20	
Income & Growth	278.00	295.60	+2.40	3.77
-do- Accum	463.90	493.10	+4.00	3.77
Intl Growth	462.40	492.10	+4.50	
-do- Accum	513.90	546.40	+5.00	
Japan S Gen	124.30	131.90	+1.50	
-do- Accum	125.60	133.20	+1.50	
Monthly Inc #	243.60	259.20†	+1.70	3.98
-do- Accum #	254.70	271.00†	+1.70	3.98
Managed Port Inc	134.40	141.50	+2.90	1.27
-do- Accum	147.90	155.70	+3.30	1.27
Quarterly Income #	65.11	69.46	+0.35	5.17
-do- Accum #	78.97	84.18	+0.37	5.17
Recovery	303.00	324.10†	-0.40	
-do- Accum	357.70	382.60†	+0.50	
UK Growth	76.84	81.74	+0.60	1.79
-do- Accum	84.90	90.32	+0.67	1.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715835 Enq 01722 715834				
FP American	80.67	85.76	+0.63	
FP Am Smlr Cos	217.60	232.10	-0.80	
FP Asian Growth	152.58	162.60	+7.40	
FP Australian	439.30	468.50	+7.50	
FP Equity Dist	576.40	614.80	+6.90	1.78
-do- Accum	1316.00	1403.00	+16.00	1.78
FP Euro Gth	382.10	407.50	+3.50	
-do- Accum	418.60	446.50	+2.70	
FP Intl Bond	58.27	61.66	-0.44	2.69
FP Intl Gth Dist	43.71	46.62	-0.50	
-do- Accum	64.44	68.73	+0.73	
FP Pac Basin Acc	168.10	179.30	+5.10	0.22
FP Income #	73.56	78.48†	+0.80	4.12
-do- Accum #	273.50	291.70	+3.00	4.12
FP Jap Smllr Cos	166.70	177.80	+2.00	
FP Monthly Dis #	88.81	94.73†	+0.56	4.64
FP Stg Deposit	100.30	100.30†	+0.10	6.11
FP Tokyo	66.60	71.04	+0.75	
FP UK Focus	53.92	57.51	+0.69	1.32
FP UK Growth	253.80	270.50†	+3.20	1.33
-do- Accum	525.70	560.70	+6.60	1.33
Stewardship Dist	496.20	529.20	+2.90	1.29
-do- Accum	635.50	677.60	+3.70	1.29
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	81.21	86.62	+0.32	5.22
-do- Accum #	118.40	126.20	-0.50	5.22
N Am Stshp Dist	156.90	167.30	+1.80	
-do- Accum	168.90	180.10	+2.00	
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	132.10	132.70†	+1.70	2.45
Inst Ethical Ac #	135.40	136.00	-1.80	2.45
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	146.50	155.80	+2.00	0.59
Opps Cap Gth Acc	144.30	153.50	+1.60	0.18
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	134.20	142.70	+1.30	2.60
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	145.40	154.60	+1.43	2.50
Opp Cp Gth Ic #	138.80	147.60	+1.30	3.54
Opp Cp Gth Ic Ac #	152.40	162.10	+1.23	3.54
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 105/7				
GANDA	378.50	399.50	+6.40	1.74
Cash	48.77	50.52	+0.02	[illegible]
Income Portfolio	86.55	91.53	+0.57	[illegible]
GA Equity Gth	283.70	301.80	+3.30	1.22
GA European Gth	168.70	178.70	+0.70	0.07
GA Japan Gth	78.98	83.92	+1.14	
GA Nth Amer Gth	301.00	319.00	+1.00	0.04
GA Intl Gth	139.10	147.80	+1.10	
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smlr Cos	250.50	266.00	+3.50	0.12
European	876.39	930.20	+4.40	0.61
European Gth	60.37	63.91	-0.34	[illegible]
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	70.47	74.60	-0.40	[illegible]
-do- Accum	54.80	57.92	-0.17	5.54
High Yield #	65.26	68.97	-0.21	6.54
-do- Accum #	233.70	250.00	+2.50	3.56
Income Inc	276.00	295.30	+2.90	3.56
-do- Accum	437.90	442.50	+3.20	0.26
Intl Growth	120.10	127.28†	+0.40	2.00
Intl Income	393.70	416.80	+2.10	
Japan Growth	128.60	137.10	+5.60	0.22
Orient Acc	235.90	251.60	+3.30	1.57
UK General Inc	427.80	456.30	+6.10	1.57
UK General Acc	72.94	78.01	+0.49	1.49
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	125.80	134.60	+1.96	1.12
UK Spec Sits	240.00	253.70	+2.30	
US Growth				
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	78.85	84.11	+1.32	1.71
Practical Inv Inc #	140.18	149.93	+0.39	3.21
-do- Accum #	348.69	372.90	+1.62	3.21
UK Index	221.33	228.47	+1.63	2.59
UK Smaller Cos	259.88	277.95	+3.77	0.24
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	26.05	26.99†	+0.17	6.67
High Income	44.28	47.15	+0.55	3.76
UK Growth & Inc	202.78	215.93	+1.56	1.42
Global Bond	27.74	28.76†	-0.26	5.12
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	40.96	43.81	-0.75	
Global Managed	157.27	166.93	+1.23	1.07
Gold & Intl Res	75.77	81.04	[illegible]	
Global Utilities	193.28	206.42†	-2.63	0.24
Overseas Funds				
American	248.59	262.98	-2.73	0.45
European	170.51	181.15	-1.07	0.36
Euro Sel Opps	277.02	294.65	[illegible]	
Amer Emerging	394.11	417.12†	[illegible]	
Hong Kong	115.76	123.69	-5.73	2.69
Japan	142.68	157.53	+1.35	
Pacific Growth	142.74	152.97	+3.57	0.34
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Cash Trust	155.32	155.32†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Managed Equity	266.44	266.44†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Long Term Bal	314.06	314.06†	[illegible]	[illegible]
Med Term Bal	260.92	260.92†	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Equity	375.58	375.58	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Emerging Cos	195.63	195.63	[illegible]	[illegible]
American	415.61	415.61	[illegible]	[illegible]
Japan	92.34	92.34	[illegible]	[illegible]
European	445.66	445.66	-1.74	0.58
Index Linked Gilt	212.11	212.11	-1.44	2.45
Fixed Interest	206.80	206.80	-0.35	6.52
Asset Emerging	454.16	454.16	[illegible]	[illegible]
Pacific	125.6	125.6	[illegible]	[illegible]
Emerging Mkts	119.63	119.63	[illegible]	[illegible]
Index Glbl Japan	97.43	97.43	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Pacific Rim	110.85	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
-do- Cont Europe	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Index Strat USA	259.92	259.92	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	140.16	149.10	[illegible]	
Med Term Bal	125.07	132.98	[illegible]	
Long Term Bal	141.94	[illegible]	[illegible]	
UK Equity	135.46	[illegible]	[illegible]	
UK Emerging Cos	32.48	[illegible]	[illegible]	
American	133.23	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Japan	44.53	[illegible]	[illegible]	
European	126.78	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Fixed Interest	102.17	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Index Linked Gilt	99.74	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Deposit	94.26	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Broker Unit Trusts				
SWN Inc	156.91	175.59	-1.23	[illegible]
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
EAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
2nd & Intl Inc ‡	251.46		[illegible]	
-do- Accum ‡	664.36		[illegible]	
European Inc ‡	181.54	190.54		
Strategic Inc	160.15		[illegible]	
N America Inc ‡	243.60		[illegible]	
Far East Inc ‡	254.40		[illegible]	
-do- Accum ‡	[illegible]		[illegible]	
UK Dvtd Inc ‡	[illegible]		[illegible]	
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9668				
European	75.90	80.60	[illegible]	
Gilt & Fixed	44.90	48.20	[illegible]	
Growth Equity	513.30	546.20	[illegible]	
Income Equity	192.30	204.10	[illegible]	
International	393.70	418.70	[illegible]	
Japan Trust	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Nth American	447.40	475.90	[illegible]	
Pacific	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling?	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing 01904 611170				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries 0117 990 ...				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries 0645 494 143 Dealing 0645 464646				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0800 520053				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	28.74	29.80†	-0.01	5.71
High Yield #	149.21	158.05†	+1.15	3.90
Income & Growth #	211.08	221.02	+2.01	2.84
International	332.45	348.13	+3.55	0.41
Japanese General	148.77	155.78†	+1.27	
Japan Tech	65.29	68.37†	+0.21	
Nat Resources	57.33	60.03	+1.08	1.37
Portfolio	98.69	103.55	+0.81	2.23
Special Sits	252.08	262.95	+1.01	0.55
UK Emerging Cos	135.86	142.26	+0.11	1.14
US Smaller Cos	181.50	198.43	+1.25	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	813.40	867.90†	+5.80	4.90
UK Growth	874.20	931.00	+9.19	1.18
High Income #	147.80	157.70†	+0.30	5.21
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	795.00	840.40	+7.70	
European Gwth	201.30	214.00†	+0.40	
Japan Gwth	215.50	229.00	+2.30	
Japan Smllr Cos	17.65	18.84	+0.25	
Asian	34.03	36.32†	+1.93	0.13
Sing & Malay Gwth	34.69	37.02	+2.58	
Hong Kong Gwth	132.10	141.00	+5.40	0.95
Global Bond	20.80	21.92†	-0.17	4.36
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	212.50	214.00†	+1.50	2.62
Yorkshire Index	140.30	143.90	-0.10	2.27
THE FOOTSIE FUND	86.87	87.31†	+0.67	1.71
Index Funds-International				
American Index	303.60	295.60	+2.70	0.47
European Index	239.50	251.80	-1.20	0.71
Eurotrack 100	52.30	52.56	+0.73	0.23
Japan Index	85.90	87.94	+5.11	1.75
Tiger Index				
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	52.69	56.03	-0.01	1.71
General Funds				
Managed Dist	96.57	101.00	-0.70	1.13
Managed	100.60	105.10	+0.70	1.13
Rupert Chld Fnd	137.80	143.30	+1.00	1.38
UK Growth	86.08	90.53	+0.59	1.49
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	107.70	112.50†	+0.40	4.71
Gilt & Fixed Int #	29.16	30.13†	-0.05	7.21
UK Inc & Gwth	60.80	63.50	+0.49	2.50
UK Income #	468.30	489.10	+2.80	3.51
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	75.62	78.28	+1.07	
Amer Smlr Cos	185.90	193.80	+0.50	
-do- Accum	187.80	195.90	+0.60	
Europe Gth	302.00	314.80	+0.19	
-do- Accum	312.80	326.00	+0.10	
Euro Smaller Cos	52.57	54.73	+0.04	
French Growth	110.10	114.20	-0.30	0.55
-do- Accum	119.10	123.70	-0.30	0.55
H Kong & China	86.44	90.07†	+5.25	1.38
Intl Growth	75.33	78.36	+0.71	0.47
-do- Accum	75.86	79.94	+0.72	0.47
Japan Gth	20.52	21.39	-0.20	
-do- Accum	20.52	21.39	+0.20	
Japan Smaller Cos	19.36	20.21	+0.40	
Glob Emg Mkts	83.19	86.88	+1.18	0.04
-do- Accum	83.78	87.50	+1.18	0.04
SE Asia	182.50	190.40	+3.20	0.78
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	50.36	51.94	-0.21	5.80
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690448				
UK Income #	138.30	148.49	+2.20	2.79
UK Growth	143.90	152.30	+2.30	1.39
Euro Growth	116.40	123.38†	+0.90	1.81
Slater Gwth	248.40	262.90	+2.50	0.76
New Japan	59.23	62.88	+0.89	
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	179.70	191.10†	+0.60	
Income #	271.22	286.53†	-0.91	3.89
UK Growth	101.78	108.27†	+0.25	2.12
Intl Growth	96.27	102.41	+0.58	0.43
Ecology	118.69	126.46	+0.03	0.65
European	255.63	271.67†	+0.65	0.48
Far Eastern	253.00	268.10†	+4.40	
UK Special Sits	69.19	73.80	+0.17	0.35
Fd of Inv Tsts	59.24	63.18†	+0.37	0.43
High Income #	61.46	65.55	+0.28	4.61
Financial Opps	55.63	59.35†	+0.12	
For Kleinwort Benson see Dresdner RCM				
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 558 8800				
Bridge Income	391.13	415.10	+2.49	4.27
Eek Growth	112.31	119.49		0.57
Inc & Growth	87.96	93.57†	+0.91	3.32
Smaller Cos	110.45	117.50	+0.39	1.29
Even Spec Sit Inc	66.28	70.49	+0.31	1.63
Even Spec Sit Acc	70.13	74.61	+0.33	1.63
Penmore Growth	58.27	61.99	+0.39	2.06
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	555.50	589.40	+2.30	1.48
UK Inc/Gth #	805.30	842.20	+3.00	2.59
UK Income #	419.50	445.10	+0.10	4.23



	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Sm Cos	332.10	353.60	+0.20	1.85
Euro Gwth	195.50	207.48	-0.20	0.26
N Amer Gwth	152.70	161.90†	-0.56	
Pacific Growth	5.80	6.15	-0.37	0.23
Emg Mkts Gwth	63.36	67.23	+1.44	
Japan Growth	44.61	47.30†	-0.04	
Dealing: 01277 690 ...				
Sath Port Inc	80.98	85.55	+0.82	0.62
Sath Port Acc	82.64	87.39	-0.84	0.62
Inc Port Inc	76.75	81.18†	-0.78	3.36
Inc Port Acc	88.27	92.97†	-0.90	3.23
Worldw Fnd	61.81	65.36	+0.63	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01222 448412 Dealing: 01222 683512				
Equity Dist	751.50	751.80	+5.10	1.97
-do- Accum	1589.00	1589.00	+11.00	1.97
Equity Income #	128.30	126.30†	+0.50	4.52
UK Ethical	85.97	85.97†	+0.44	5.02
European	181.90	181.90	+1.30	0.74
Far Eastern	153.00	153.00	+5.30	
Fixed Interest	59.69	59.59†	0.39	7.17
[illegible]	99.71	99.71†	-0.29	5.93
[illegible]	83.49	83.49	-0.96	0.41
Global Growth	49.67	49.67	-0.32	4.93
Intl Bond	54.49	54.40†	-0.46	
Japanese	290.90	290.90†	-0.70	
North American	72.30	72.30	+3.99	0.94
Pacific Growth	30.15	30.15†	+1.31	3.35
Pacific Index	98.03	98.03†	+0.73	2.97
UK Index	140.80	140.80	+0.50	1.41
UK Recovery	198.10	198.10	+0.90	1.13
UK Smaller Cos	113.50	113.50†	-0.90	0.67
US Index	116.10	116.10	-0.60	0.98
European Index	26.67	26.67	-0.42	
Japan Index	112.30	112.90†	+0.90	1.09
Worldwide				
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing 01452 371 823				
Growth	71.13	76.07†	+0.31	2.02
Income	84.35	90.21†	+0.51	3.55
Far East	28.78	30.78	+0.93	
North American	161.40	172.10†	+1.68	
Global	91.91	98.29	+1.12	0.32
European	127.50	136.00		0.59
Japan	62.04	66.35	-0.75	
Intl Smaller Bd	56.90	60.27	-0.38	4.90
SE Asia	55.16	58.99	-1.79	0.73
UK Sm Growth	127.10	135.90	+1.48	1.72
Recovery Trust	97.42	104.20	+0.60	2.61
Managed	75.95	81.22	+3.57	1.60
Cash	52.27	52.27	+0.02	6.65
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 320 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	526.50	559.30	+7.80	1.75
-do- Accum	1290.00	1392.00	+19.00	1.75
Cons Euro Gth	96.49	101.60	+0.50	0.09
-do- Accum	104.50	110.00	+0.50	0.09
Extra Inc #	371.70	395.50	+7.50	3.17
Extra Inc Acc #	1070.00	1139.00	+20.00	3.17
FTSE 100 Inc	163.20	173.70	+2.40	1.90
FTSE 100 Acc	173.90	185.00	+2.50	1.90
German Gth	170.00	179.00	+1.40	0.08
-do- Accum	178.30	187.70	+1.40	0.08
Growth Port	730.90	950.80	+19.60	0.17
-do- Accum	842.70	897.90	+13.70	0.17
High Interest Inc	111.50	115.50†	-0.10	6.54
High Interest Acc	127.10	131.90	-0.10	6.54
Hi Reserve Inc #	127.10	135.90	+0.80	4.99
Hi Reserve Acc #	147.50	157.70	+1.00	4.99
Income Inc #	716.90	762.70	+0.90	2.77
Income Acc #	2100.00	2244.00	+2.00	2.77
Income Port	685.20	723.60	-0.90	3.63
-do- Accum	844.70	888.60	-2.90	3.52
Japan Growth	77.67	81.99	+0.64	
-do- Accum	77.74	82.28	+0.66	
Master Inc	78.95	83.99†	+0.83	1.16
-do- Accum	92.75	98.68	+0.97	1.16
Mediterranean Acc	122.90	129.80		1.51
N American Gen	318.30	338.70	-3.00	0.50
-do- Accum	308.40	332.00	-3.40	0.50
Nthn Sml Cos Acc	231.00	245.80	+1.40	
-do- Accum	235.90	250.90	+1.50	
Pacific Basin	147.20	156.80	+5.60	1.02
-do- Accum	157.00	167.10	+5.50	1.02
Safety First Acc	113.35	121.60	+0.90	1.31
Dfirst + 10/98 ‡	103.70			
Small Cos Rec	566.50	598.40	+1.40	1.85
-do- Accum	795.50	837.40	+1.90	1.38
UK Eq 20	212.70	226.30	-3.00	2.12
UK Eq Inc #	168.70	179.70	-2.00	3.35
UK Growth	135.60	144.50†	+1.80	1.47
-do- Accum	174.00	185.20	+4.40	1.47
Worldwide Gth	404.50	430.40	-5.40	0.42
-do- Accum	598.70	637.00	-7.90	0.42
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
General	136.50	146.45	+1.81	2.30
Income	93.21	100.04	+1.19	4.34
International	78.45	84.17	-0.82	0.40
Trst of Inv Tsts	84.82	91.00	+0.92	1.10
M & G SECURITIES				
Deal Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
American	624.10	668.40	+4.20	0.51
-do- Accum	775.10	833.10	+5.70	0.51
Amer Recovery	771.80	816.20	+3.00	0.26
-do- Accum	892.60	944.00	+3.50	0.26
Amer Smlr Cos	186.80	197.30†	-1.70	
-do- Accum	189.70	201.50†	-1.20	
Australasian	199.00	210.40	+3.20	1.93
-do- Accum	234.60	249.10	+4.10	1.93

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Blue Chip	89.11	89.56†	+0.48	3.52
-do- Accum	275.42	276.88†	+1.49	3.52
British Opps	68.10	72.00	+0.30	2.53
-do- Accum	245.40	258.70	+1.10	2.53
Capital	1136.60	1202.00	+2.20	2.45
-do- Accum	1390.90	1470.90	+2.70	2.45
Chartered	907.40	1007.40	+3.60	4.84
-do- Accum	5567.50	5682.60	+20.00	4.84
Commodity	329.10	348.00	+4.40	1.41
-do- Accum	487.60	515.70	+6.50	1.41
Corporate Bond	28.97	29.10†	-0.00	8.20
Dividend #	54.30	57.40	+0.30	4.22
-do- Accum #	255.80	270.50	+1.50	4.22
Equity Income	390.20	412.60†	+0.90	4.82
-do- Accum	565.50	597.90	+1.20	4.82
European	782.10	827.10†	+1.90	0.44
-do- Accum	1009.40	1067.60†	-2.40	0.44
Euro Dividend #	99.90	105.60†	-0.30	3.31
-do- Accum #	132.80	139.60†	-0.30	3.31
Euro Smlr Cos	58.40	62.80	+0.50	0.50
-do- Accum	59.60	63.00	+0.50	0.50
Extra Income	589.80	622.80	+3.10	4.58
-do- Accum	2076.70	2196.50	+11.00	4.58
Fund of Inv Tsts	789.00	834.40	+6.80	1.37
-do- Accum	1547.40	1636.40	+13.20	1.37
Gilt Income	65.51	69.54	-0.17	5.60
-do- Accum	225.41	225.83	-0.53	5.60
Gold	37.49	39.50†	+1.20	0.95
-do- Accum	45.20	47.70†	+1.40	0.95
High Interest	25.08	25.08†		7.39
Income	41.40	43.80†	+0.10	4.16
-do- Accum	187.10	197.90†	+1.20	4.16
Intl Growth	90.20	95.40	+0.90	0.83
-do- Accum	160.60	169.90	+1.60	0.83
International Inc	128.40	135.80	+1.20	3.95
-do- Accum	214.80	227.20	+2.00	3.95
Japan	23.70	25.00	+0.80	0.11
-do- Accum	25.40	26.80	+0.80	0.11
Japan Smlr Cos	80.30	84.80	+1.00	0.11
-do- Accum	80.60	85.40	+1.00	0.11
Managed Gwth	29.20	30.80†	+0.20	1.47
Managed Income	35.50	37.30†	+0.30	4.03
Pension Ex	1342.80	1376.40	+4.80	3.22
Recovery	56.40	59.60†	+0.20	2.64
-do- Accum	100.18	106.00†	+0.40	2.64
Smaller Cos	72.80	76.10	+0.30	2.51
-do- Accum	158.10	161.90	+0.70	2.51
Sth East Asia	234.30	247.80	+12.60	2.40
-do- Accum	317.00	335.30	+17.00	2.40
Tristar	52.90	55.90	+0.10	4.49
-do- Accum	240.30	254.20	+0.50	4.49
UK Equity	85.10	90.00†	+0.20	3.81
-do- Accum	243.30	257.40†	+0.60	3.81
UK Growth	1359.10	1437.20	+11.40	1.94
-do- Accum	1597.10	1685.50	+12.80	1.94
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	131.92	140.34	-0.18	0.32
Intl Bond	61.93	65.05	-0.35	3.46
Intl Equity Growth	95.56	101.40	+0.97	0.55
N Amer Growth	178.75	189.60	+1.21	0.54
Special Sits Growth	35.86	38.14	+0.51	1.80
UK Growth	587.48	624.97	+7.72	2.19
-do- Accum	828.39	881.26	+10.92	2.19
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01628 625657				
Balanced Fd #	1442.20	1480.10		2.80
Income #	1172.00	1189.40†		4.30
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	188.49	193.60†		3.63
MANEK INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
0171 615 7070				
Growth Fd Acc	98.91	105.50	+1.80	
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Income #	195.00	198.30	+0.10	8.05
Investment Ptfo	210.40	218.90†	+1.00	2.04
-do- Accum	256.90	264.90†	+1.30	2.04
UK Select Ptfo	201.50	207.80†	+1.30	1.81
-do- Accum	243.90	257.50†	+1.50	1.81
UK 100 Cos	156.30	156.30	+1.10	1.85
-do- Accum	162.50	162.50	+1.10	1.85
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 394 842				
Managed Tst	82.11	87.35		2.69
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4546				
Intl Income	100.40	106.80†	+1.40	4.18
European	127.10	134.90	+0.50	0.25
Income #	103.90	110.30	+1.80	3.82
Nth American	111.20	118.00	+0.80	0.25
Far East	132.10	140.20	+2.10	
Japan	51.83	55.02	+0.48	
Emging Mkts	75.46	80.71	+1.68	0.69
Intl Growth	139.20	147.80	+1.70	0.53
UK Growth	147.00	156.10	+2.10	1.75
UK Smlr Co	66.15	70.23	+0.21	1.45
Asia Pacific	25.54	27.32	+0.57	0.44
Glob Gwth PEP	72.11	76.54	+0.64	0.63
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	108.50	115.40	+1.30	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Income	605.63	644.29	+8.76	2.89
Global Inc	91.40	97.23	+0.27	2.56
Brit Leaders Inc	465.73	495.46	[illegible]	1.67
Intl Leaders	251.56	259.53	+2.43	2.94
PAM Mg Bal Gth	73.58	78.17	+0.65	0.71
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	353.90	373.50	+4.300	
-do- Accum	381.90	404.50	+4.500	
American Opps	145.00	154.00	+1.200	
-do- Accum	146.90	155.90	+1.200	
Bal Port	111.20	118.50	+1.100	2.52
-do- Accum	140.10	149.60	+1.200	2.52
British Blue Chip	125.60	133.30	+1.500	2.48
-do- Accum	166.60	176.90	+2.000	2.48
Cash	101.40	101.40		6.94
-do- Accum	157.60	157.60		6.93
Emerging Mkts	123.60	131.80	+3.400	0.23
-do- Accum	124.20	132.60	+3.400	0.23
European Growth	412.90	437.30	+3.500	0.12
-do- Accum	450.70	477.30	+3.800	0.12
General	713.80	774.30	+8.000	2.03
-do- Accum	1518.00	1614.00	+15.00	2.03
Global Bond	129.20	134.70	-0.30	4.52
-do- Accum	172.20	[illegible]	-1.20	4.51
Gold & General	118.30	127.00	+1.300	0.54
-do- Accum	122.40	131.40	+3.400	0.54
Govt Securities	182.10	185.20	-0.18	4.60
-do- Accum	230.20	235.20	-0.20	4.60
High Yield Eq	111.00	117.70	-0.20	5.56
-do- Accum	126.90	129.10	-0.20	5.62
Income	243.30	258.50	+2.700	3.48
-do- Accum	623.30	646.80	+4.600	3.48
Inc Portfolio #	131.00	138.60	+1.200	4.70
-do- Accum #	151.40	160.40	+1.400	4.70
Intl Opps	621.20	669.10	+2.900	0.74
-do- Accum	655.20	713.00	-3.100	0.74
Japan	139.60	148.60	+1.500	
-do- Accum	143.30	152.60	+1.500	
New Europe	300.10	319.40	+2.700	0.51
-do- Accum	324.10	344.70	+3.000	0.51
Pacific	66.00	71.13	+3.070	0.51
-do- Accum	71.43	74.79	+3.150	0.51
Recovery	152.80	165.00	+6.700	1.56
-do- Accum	147.60	156.50	-3.900	1.56
UK Smaller Cos	67.38	72.00	+0.160	1.63
-do- Accum	79.03	84.35	+0.190	1.63
Managed Gth	135.70	145.30†	+1.300	1.73
Managed Inc	138.10	143.20†	+0.730	3.17
For Metropolitan Unit Trust see Canada Life Mgrs				
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	73.50	77.56	+0.66	2.37
-do- Accum	90.46	94.72	+0.77	2.37
British Tst	123.70	145.20	+1.50	1.78
-do- Accum	169.53	177.50	+1.80	1.79
Corp Bond Inc	119.60	124.58	-0.13	5.99
-do- Accum	117.60	121.90	-0.10	5.99
Extra High Inc	87.67	91.56†	+0.70	5.77
-do- Accum #	81.40	90.08†	+0.70	5.77
FTSE 100 Acc	94.92	99.45†	+0.71	1.75
FTSE 100 Dist	95.64	100.27†	+0.71	1.75
Gilt & Fxd Int	62.??	65.76	-0.06	5.93
-do- Accum	225.00	233.30	-0.59	5.08
High Yield	297.90	310.60	+3.30	4.92
-do- Accum #	192.90	200.80	+1.30	4.92
Hesketh Nums	115.70	121.60	+1.20	2.75
Income	114.50	120.00	+2.50	2.79
-do- Accum #	1025.00	1095.00	+7.00	3.78
Money Market UT	82.13	85.37	+0.04	6.43
-do- Accum	97.10	103.50	+0.51	3.92
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
Dutch	178.60	187.90	+1.80	1.76
European Growth	178.40	187.50	-1.60	
Gilt & Fixed	156.00	123.08	-0.30	5.71
Income	138.20	147.10	+0.30	3.52
Japan Growth	33.14	35.01	+1.72	
Managed	99.26	105.00	-1.50	2.27
Money Market	102.10	108.60	-0.10	5.05
North American	120.00	127.30	+1.50	
Midland Unit Trust Dual				
British	168.10	177.70	-1.10	1.76
European Growth	165.50	175.50	-1.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int	107.90	114.40	-3.20	5.75
Income	125.40	133.00	-1.90	3.52
Japan Growth	33.51	35.61	+1.63	
Managed	97.36	104.08	-0.60	2.26
Money Market	95.38	100.12	-0.01	5.07
North American	131.70	147.60	-1.50	
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers 0171 588 7474 Enquiries 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	592.10	626.70†	+2.10	
European Gth Inc	63.50	66.80†	-0.53	
-do- Accum	64.60	68.80†	-0.53	
Intl Gwth	263.10	280.40†	+2.13	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc	276.20	293.20	+1.80	3.49
-do- Accum	390.80	415.00	+2.70	3.49
UK Growth Inc	162.80	174.20	+0.80	2.75
-do- Accum	169.20	181.40	+0.90	2.75
UK Intl Tech Inc	247.90	264.10	+2.10	2.46
-do- Accum	313.50	334.00	+2.70	2.46
US Eq Ind Tck Inc	375.80	386.40	+3.10	0.88
Japan Tracker	47.44	50.04	+0.28	
Asian Tracker	124.80	134.60	+8.90	0.49
Mngd Pfolio Inc	217.20	231.10†	+1.20	1.92
Mngd Pfolio Acc	242.60	258.10†	+1.30	1.52
Deposit Inc	100.14	100.14†	+0.04	6.82
Europa	256.30	274.30	+0.10	
Genesis	227.30	246.80	+0.70	2.26
High Income	20.99	22.30†	+0.11	10.00
Japan Growth	73.97	78.54	+0.97	
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 000 933				
Acumen	123.80	126.70	+0.80	2.05
Acumen Inc	110.40	113.00	+0.90	2.06
Acumen Reserve	111.30	112.40†	-0.20	6.76
-do- Inc	80.29	81.09†	-0.18	6.10
Americas Growth	77.45	80.20	+0.86	
Equity Income #	131.40	134.70†	+1.40	3.83
European	91.95	101.80	+0.50	
Smaller Cos	97.21	101.20		1.84
Worldw Eqty	86.12	89.55	+1.39	0.14
Global Bond	41.92	42.24	-0.31	4.64
UK Growth	135.20	138.30	+1.50	1.25
Pacific Growth	87.15	88.85	+3.47	2.30
Japan Growth	81.10	82.98	+1.40	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	192.77	205.07†	+1.38	1.76
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
American Dist	155.70	163.90†	+1.50	0.01
European Dist	189.10	198.10	+1.30	0.18
Far East Dist	121.60	128.20	+0.80	0.05
Global Care Dist	103.30	109.70†	+0.58	0.27
Oases Dist	1111.00	1169.50	+17.90	0.18
-do- Accum	1445.70	1521.80	+23.32	0.18
UK Dist	540.60	569.10	+9.80	1.48
-do- Accum	1125.30	1184.50	+9.80	1.48
UK Extra Inc Dist	112.30	118.20	+0.40	3
-do- Accum	122.80	129.30	+1.50	3.39
Wwide Dist	100.01	105.27	+0.89	1.83
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 0826 601 6147 Admin Enq: 0870 603 9188				
Europe Inc	98.88	104.37	+0.42	0.33
Fund of Funds Inc	77.88	82.19†	+0.53	0.89
North America Inc	81.95	86.49	+0.95	
UK Equity Gwth Inc	98.16	95.16	+1.14	1.29
-do- Accum	109.82	105.56	+1.28	1.29
UK General Inc	83.24	87.85	+0.78	1.42
-do- Accum	94.46	99.68	+0.86	1.42
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	49.84	52.60†	-0.14	5.61
UK Income Inc	83.65	87.85	+0.66	2.87
UK Smlr Cos Inc	137.95	145.59	+0.47	1.08
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	65.77	69.96	+0.70	
-do- Accum	65.77	69.96	+0.70	
Bond	135.60	144.37†	-1.20	4.41
Cash Income	50.59	50.59†	+0.03	6.65
-do- Accum	73.37	73.37†	+0.04	6.65
Challenger	93.38	96.21	+0.19	0.69
Distributor	132.31	140.75†	+1.05	1.82
European	78.44	83.44	+0.96	
Foundation	131.36	139.74	+0.83	1.17
General Inc	265.86	282.82†	-1.37	1.05
General Acc	272.35	289.73†	-1.38	1.05
Growth Inc	171.45	182.39	+0.92	1.04
Growth Acc	179.29	190.73	+0.94	1.04
Higher Income Inc	43.45	46.75	+0.04	3.83
-do- Accum	55.72	59.27	+0.05	3.83
High Yield Bond #	99.75	104.14†	-0.21	7.89
Income	354.50	377.12†	+2.26	2.42
-do- Accum	175.70	183.08	+0.86	1.36
Intl Gwth	45.11	47.98	+0.03	
Japan	24.22	25.76	+0.58	
Oriental Inc	105.69	112.43	+5.72	0.62
-do- Accum	109.59	116.57	+5.94	0.62
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	58.04	61.42†	+0.40	5.30
UK Growth	137.40	145.40†		2.49
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	159.56	169.90	+1.37	1.13
UK Equity	214.41	228.79	+2.00	2.32
UK Equity Income #	190.05	200.05	+0.87	4.55
UK Smaller Cos	169.00	177.89†	+0.20	1.26
UK Equity Growth	189.59	199.69	+1.94	1.10
UK Index Tkg	214.94	226.85	+0.50	2.25
UK Index Tkg	192.84	203.52	+1.93	0.67
International	305.05	321.10	+3.56	1.38
European	319.50	336.41	+1.16	0.01
Pan European	210.37	221.34	+0.59	0.85
Nth American	310.67	327.02	+4.05	0.23
N Amer Smlr Cos	339.44	357.30	+5.80	
Japanese	67.36	70.90†	+0.78	0.37
Pacific	154.49	162.62	+4.18	2.04
South East Asian	159.94	167.31	+6.40	1.96
Sterling Bond	109.65	115.42†	-0.31	5.67
Intl Bond	123.30	129.79†	-0.86	4.88
Gilt & Convertible	118.95	125.21†	-0.34	5.79
Property	93.39	98.31†	+0.10	5.27
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	446.70	478.80	+2.20	0.25
-do- Accum	474.70	508.90	+2.30	0.25
Japan Inc	73.36	77.79	+1.23	
Nth American Inc	196.18	209.50	+1.98	
Worldwide Inc	208.00	230.70	+2.80	0.16
Hong Kong Inc	134.30	143.70	+5.60	1.44
Swiss Equities Inc	120.10	127.80	+0.10	
Wwide Bond Inc	68.81	72.72	-0.49	4.38
Emging Asia Inc	108.30	116.40†	+7.23	1.28
-do- Accum	109.20	117.40†	+7.28	1.28
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.58	50.58	+0.02	6.56
Thailand Inc	36.41	39.46	+4.42	2.25
New Zealand Inc	80.41	88.57		1.94
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	86.84	92.29	+0.94	0.70
Latin Am Corp Inc	76.24	81.62†	+2.18	0.65
UK All Sh Idx Inc	90.05	91.30	+0.63	1.93
Global Dist Trusts				
Way Global Blue	89.58	96.38	+0.29	
Global Portfolio	76.48	81.88	+0.50	
Way Global Bond	68.12	72.85	+0.21	
Marsh Global Gth	66.22	70.22	+1.52	0.21
AMB Brit Gwth Inc	136.10	145.50	+0.90	0.62
Temple Equity Inc	54.52	58.43†	+0.27	1.30
Henley Growth	153.90	163.70	+1.10	0.52
Intl Growth Inc	73.83	78.95		
IPS Portfolio Inc	108.90	115.20†	+2.50	
Roxburgh Strat Gth	77.19	82.58†		0.17
UFC Growth	74.02	79.17	+0.30	1.07
Chartfield Port of Fds	54.50	57.82	+0.21	0.44
Pyg Intl Equity	85.18	91.10	+0.46	
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	358.50	381.30†	+5.90	1.43
-do- Accum	809.10	860.50†	+12.40	1.43
Growth	232.20	244.40	+3.50	1.77
Income	341.00	362.70	-0.80	3.14
-do- Accum	306.70	326.20	+3.00	0.24
Intl Equity	344.50	366.40	+3.40	0.24
-do- Accum	91.85	97.70†	-0.81	4.38
Equity Income #	121.90	129.60	+1.99	1.22
New Europe	129.00	137.18	-0.20	
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	793.71	847.39	+6.78	0.36
-do- Accum	801.92	856.15	+6.85	0.36
Income	590.12	631.18	+2.64	3.48
Worldw Recovery	513.77	548.79	+5.12	0.36
Amer Growth Inc	374.24	397.55	+2.14	0.01
-do- Accum	374.24	397.55	+2.14	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	303.29	324.38	+2.38	0.04
Far Estn Gth Inc	225.79	241.49†	+4.77	1.54
-do- Accum	230.34	246.35	+4.88	1.54
Euro Gwth Inc	246.53	263.31†	+1.69	0.01
-do- Accum	247.53	264.22	+1.60	0.01
UK Growth Inc	147.38	157.20	+0.73	2.21
-do- Accum	161.66	172.27	+0.24	2.21
High Income	153.08	163.67†	+0.87	3.83
Jap Gwth Inc	131.78	140.95	+4.01	0.07
-do- Accum	131.78	140.95	+4.01	0.07
PEP Bond	65.47	68.42	-0.09	6.36
PEP Growth	172.76	184.49	+1.11	0.51
Asian Chr Mkts Inc	82.21	87.93†	+3.52	0.78
-do- Accum	83.19	88.88	+3.56	0.78
Amer Smlr Co Inc	241.53	257.23	+0.83	0.01
-do- Accum	241.53	257.23	+0.83	0.01
Global Bond	53.71	57.30	-0.09	4.43
UK Smaller Cos Inc	119.97	128.32	+0.25	1.99
-do- Accum	129.34	138.98	+0.26	1.99
Lat Am Gwth Inc	37.58	40.20	+0.65	0.13
-do- Accum	38.19	40.84	+0.66	0.13
World Inc PEP #	50.18	53.08†	+0.26	4.21
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	163.29	173.65	-0.13	
European	118.58	126.15	+0.88	
Global	52.08	55.40†	-0.04	
Pacific	37.41	39.85	+0.88	
UK Inc & Gth	97.95	104.20	+0.89	1.30
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 0171 588 8800				
Asia	37.62	39.31	+0.59	
Emerg Mkts	43.57	46.23	+0.65	0.35
Euro Fund	51.64	54.79†	+0.37	
Fund of Funds	216.73	227.50	+2.65	0.03
High Income #	61.75	65.03†	+0.14	5.38
Performance	52.67	56.19	+0.60	
PREMIER PORTFOLIO MGRS LTD				
01483 450 602				
Special Sits	230.30	246.30	+1.50	
Dividend	134.30	143.60	+3.18	3.13
Intl Gth & Inc	281.00	299.00†	+2.20	0.80
UK & Gen	61.97	66.28	+1.03	0.83
Fund of Funds	91.33	96.80	+0.57	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	202.84	216.71	+0.72	2.38
For Prolific UT see Aberdeen Prolific UT				
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 406080 Client Enq: 0345 888500				
Managed Tst	49.65	51.45	+0.44	1.94
Cash Fund	101.80	102.30	+0.04	6.20
Cash Fixed Inc	125.70	126.32	+0.05	6.20
Cash Fixed Acc	113.34	120.36†	+0.49	4.64
Dvt Trust Inc	142.61	147.78	-0.50	4.64
Dvt Trust Acc	118.78	126.35	+1.12	1.58
Global Growth	107.39	114.24	+0.64	3.20
Equity Inc	1099.74	1169.94	+8.40	1.62
Equity	357.82	384.59†	+2.26	0.52
European	108.95	115.91†	-0.23	4.41
High Income	232.04	246.85†	+2.54	0.80
Intl Gth	97.33	103.54	+0.89	0.93
Intl Sm Co	115.51	119.70	+2.48	
Japanese	50.92	52.64†		7.20
Mngd Income Tst #	311.64	322.40	+1.78	0.67
Nth Amer	76.91	81.87	+3.28	1.35
Pacific Mkts	56.67	52.73†	-0.07	5.59
Premier Inc	120.82	128.57	+0.25	1.59
Sm Cos	148.94	159.55†	+0.73	1.57
Spec Sits	186.59	198.50	+1.46	1.61
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 556 8800				
Hi Inc Inc	101.27	108.49	+0.86	3.32
Investment Trust	121.90	129.86	+1.67	0.56
UK Smaller Cos	122.45	130.78†	+0.70	1.99
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	449.80	467.60	+5.60	2.08
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers 0171 623 1000 Client Services 0800 124 314				
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	32.28	33.71†	+0.75	
Cash	48.28	48.28†	+0.01	5.42
Emerging Mkts	42.70	44.59†	-0.31	
Europe	76.50	79.89†	+0.43	
Global Fixed Int #	50.15	52.37†	-0.31	4.10
Japan	29.74	31.05†	+0.04	
North America	84.84	88.60†	-0.13	
UK	82.22	85.86†	+1.03	0.15

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
UK Equity Inc #	75.28	78.82†	+1.00	3.18
UK Fixed Int #	54.94	57.37†	-0.05	6.53
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	59.23	61.37	+0.57	
Pep Inc Port #	61.16	63.37	+0.65	2.74
Five Arrows Global Investment Funds				
A Shares				
Asian Opps ‡	34.26	...	+0.98	
Asia Pacific ‡	34.08	...	+1.69	1.38
Europe ‡	47.49	...	+0.39	..
Japan ‡	42.90	...	+0.38	..
Latin America ‡	38.64	...	+0.97	..
North America ‡	49.19	...	+0.17	
UK Eq Income ‡	51.81	...	+0.51	3.70
UK Major Cos ‡	61.45	...	+0.70	0.85
UK Smaller Cos ‡	56.13	...	+0.48	1.00
ROYAL & SUN ALLIANCE UT MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0870 601 6183 Dealing: 0870 601 6063				
Royal & Sun Alliance Trusts				
Equity	1411.00	1493.00†	+17.00	1.47
Equity Income #	144.70	153.10†	+1.20	3.86
European	220.40	233.20	+0.90	
High Inc Bond	52.19	52.27		0.61
Portfolio	133.60	141.30		1.97
UK Index Trckg	253.20	267.90	+2.10	4.47
UK Leading Cos	106.90	113.10†	+1.10	1.87
UK Smaller Cos	142.80	151.10†	+0.30	1.16
Royal Life Trusts				
High Inc Dist	213.50	226.70	+1.70	2.68
Intl Cautionary	69.17	73.52	+0.20	4.17
Intl Growth	89.55	94.76†	+0.71	
Intl Spec	78.78	83.78	+0.64	
Managed	215.60	231.80†	+2.20	0.64
Pacific Basin	59.80	63.65	+1.82	0.60
United States	171.90	181.80	+1.10	0.29
Sun Alliance Trusts				
European	186.20	198.10	+0.10	
Far East	124.00	131.20†	+3.70	
North America	252.20	270.80	+1.80	
Wwide Bond	55.83	58.67	-0.45	4.46
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	252.20	267.50†	+1.80	1.01
European Growth	204.80	216.50	+2.30	1.03
Far East Growth	89.71	95.44†	+2.25	2.83
Gilt Income	83.57	88.88	+4.36	0.64
Japan Growth	256.60	272.80	-1.20	1.95
Special Sits	131.90	140.30†	+1.80	2.39
UK Growth	319.50	335.90	+5.60	1.82
Intl Growth				
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	111.00	117.58†	+5.50	1.09
Gt Euro Prog Inc	546.30	578.10†		0.72
-do- Accum	863.49	913.70†		0.72
Growth Inc	180.60	191.10	-0.20	0.10
-do- Accum	186.00	196.80	-0.20	0.10
International Inc	479.10	507.00	-0.30	0.40
-do- Accum	664.70	703.40	-0.30	0.40
Nth Am & Intl Inc	502.30	531.50	-0.50	1.54
UK Gen Prog Inc	314.60	332.90†	+2.00	1.59
-do- Accum	370.30	391.80†	+2.50	1.59
UK High Inc Inc	186.60	197.70	+1.10	5.01
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	71.95	76.54	+3.54	8.75
European Gwth	117.82	125.34‡	-0.14	1.00
Global Bd	80.84	84.87	-0.38	5.00
Japan	43.77	46.56	+0.59	
UK Gwth	109.97	116.98†	+1.71	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
American	176.70	188.00	+0.80	
Amer Smllr Cos	144.10	144.10†	+0.10	0.76
Cash	52.42	55.77	+3.49	0.27
China Dragon	106.00	112.80	+1.40	
Commodity	34.45	36.65	+0.18	0.54
Emerging Mkts	303.90	323.30	+0.16	
European Gwth	78.60	83.70	-0.36	
Euro Smllr Cos	68.13	71.64	+0.62	4.89
Extra Income #	70.94	75.47	-2.14	
Far Eastern	34.78	37.00	+0.65	0.92
FE Smr Cos	439.70	467.80	+7.20	1.18
Financial Secs	35.61	37.88†	+0.70	
Gold & Exploration	555.40	598.28†	+8.50	1.38
Growth	54.26	54.28	-0.08	5.59
High Income	158.60	167.60	-1.40	5.03
Intl Bond	261.90	276.60	+2.50	0.59
ITG	118.80	128.10	+0.40	
Japan Growth	96.08	101.98	+1.10	
Japan Smaller	18.30	19.47	+1.53	
Korea	46.18	49.13	+1.13	0.07
Latin America	73.74	74.11†	+6.14	6.84
Motorfund	218.60	232.80	+4.20	1.18
Premier Eq Gth	468.30	495.10	+7.20	3.63
Premier Eq Inc #	30.23	32.15	+1.82	0.25
SE Asia	42.65	45.36	-0.17	1.26
Southern Africa	231.10	245.90	+3.00	0.69
UK & O'seas	108.50	115.49	+2.10	1.69
UK Eqty Gth	330.80	351.90†	+2.80	3.70
UK Eqty Inc #	386.30	411.00†	+2.40	2.49
UK Gth & Inc #	68.26	72.62	+0.13	0.85
UK Sm Cos	290.30	308.70	+1.80	
US Growth	49.26		+0.59	
New Europe ‡				
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	440.38	465.57	+1.84	0.45
-do- Accum	490.38	518.42	+2.84	0.45
European Gwth	113.84	120.11	+0.60	0.32
Euro Smlr Cos	128.57	137.27†	-0.80	0.03
-do- Accum	125.35	133.17†	-0.60	0.03
Far Eastern Gth	81.31	86.73†	+2.83	0.26
-do- Accum	83.00	88.53†	+2.71	0.26
Gilt & Fixed Int #	58.85	61.15	-0.13	6.88
Global Bond #	45.34	46.85†	-0.25	6.01
-do- Accum #	58.97	60.00†	-0.32	6.01
Global Emer Mkts	44.47	47.43	+1.38	0.01
-do- Accum	44.51	47.48	+1.37	0.01
Income #	525.38	560.31	+0.19	4.22
-do- Accum #	1650.30	1673.60	+0.69	4.22
Japan Smlr Cos	206.40	220.16†	+0.43	
-do- Accum	206.82	220.60†	+0.43	
Japan Enterprise	47.99	51.18	+0.58	
Pacific Gwth	88.89	94.81	+4.95	1.03
-do- Accum	92.41	98.58	+5.15	1.03
Portfolio	107.87	114.75	+0.88	1.90
-do- Accum	121.92	129.69	+0.78	1.90
Seoul	16.04	17.10	+1.70	
-do- Accum	16.04	17.10	+1.70	
Smaller Cos	401.56	428.33†	+0.36	0.89
-do- Accum	482.36	514.53†	+0.43	0.89
Strategic Inc	113.85	121.22	+0.56	2.43
Strategic Acc	116.74	124.30	+0.57	2.43
Tokyo	104.00	110.93	+0.52	
-do- Accum	105.05	112.05	+0.52	
UK Enterprise	401.70	428.48†	+1.16	2.13
-do- Accum	512.69	546.86†	+1.49	2.13
UK Equity	374.51	399.47†	+1.11	2.14
-do- Accum	780.15	832.16†	+2.32	2.14
US Smlr Cos	326.30	347.77	+1.48	
-do- Accum	326.59	347.77	+1.48	
Institutional Funds				
European	356.30	378.42†	+4.42	1.04
-do- Accum	478.28	434.29†	+5.66	1.04
Euro Smlr Cos	39.88	41.27	-0.85	0.96
-do- Accum	48.37	48.11	-0.08	0.96
Global Equity Inc	102.88	108.60	+0.80	0.87
Japan Smlr Cos	20.60	21.45†	+0.10	0.23
-do- Accum	20.93	21.09†	+0.08	0.23
Mngd Balanced	251.83	262.32	+1.48	3.76
-do- Accum	303.24	315.88	+1.78	3.26
Overseas Equity	218.92	225.64†	+3.76	0.95
-do- Accum	238.21	238.46†	+3.54	0.95
Oases Smllr Cos	121.13	126.17	+0.46	0.00
-do- Accum	129.15	134.52	+0.49	0.00
Pacific	159.27	165.90	+9.00	2.64
-do- Accum	180.30	187.81	+18.29	2.64
Recovery	2763.62	2884.18†	-1.94	2.81
-do- Accum	3164.35	3298.20†	-2.21	2.81
UK Index	235.44	245.25	+0.88	2.71
-do- Accum	314.33	327.43	+1.19	2.71
UK Small Cos	161.52	168.24	+0.43	2.81
-do- Accum	183.81	190.63	+0.49	2.81
US Smlr Cos	80.35	83.68	+0.20	0.57
-do- Accum	82.98	86.32	+0.21	0.57
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2280				
Equity Income	76.68	81.08	+1.08	2.25
Equity Trust	99.53	105.25	+1.41	2.55
Equity Strategy	103.60	109.55	+0.95	1.70
European Opps	132.08	139.67	+1.27	0.15
UK Smaller Cos	86.10	91.05	-0.01	1.47
Maximum Inc	100.90	103.53		7.73
Japanese	45.34	47.95	+0.92	
Asia Pacific	78.91	83.45	+3.38	0.58
American	175.98	186.08	+0.84	0.88
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	35.39	35.39	+0.02	6.85
UK Eq Gwth Inc	77.05	81.98	+0.73	2.59
-do- Accum	107.15	114.00	+1.01	2.59
Intl Income	337.34	358.79	+3.81	1.34
-do- Accum	804.45	842.86	+8.82	1.34
European	131.86	139.93†	+1.89	1.04
Japan	49.45	52.38	-0.12	0.05
American	133.48	141.15	+1.04	1.80
Far East Tact	57.58	61.38	+2.38	1.75
Ethical Inc	48.78	50.87	+0.26	1.86
-do- Accum	55.08	58.91†	+0.31	1.88
UK Blue Chip Inc	52.81	56.29	+0.61	2.60
-do- Accum	65.23	69.45	+0.75	2.60
UK Equity Inc	55.45	58.15	+0.48	3.79
-do- Accum	84.16	89.27	+0.72	3.79
UK Global Inc	58.50	62.28	+0.72	1.84
-do- Accum	64.96	69.13	+0.79	1.84
Wwide Tact	98.22	104.48	+1.80	1.83
Europe Tactical	96.26	102.68	+0.68	0.56
Technology	177.12	187.92	+1.21	0.45
Gilt Inc	29.32	31.19†	+0.08	5.48
-do- Accum	31.83	33.77†	+0.17	5.45
UK Ext Inc Inc	28.62	28.86	-0.03	7.20
-do- Accum	29.21	30.91	-0.03	7.20
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	642.90	683.80	+6.80	1.88
American	442.90	468.80	+4.10	0.28
Pacific	293.10	313.50	+8.60	0.56
European	789.10	844.00	+4.70	0.80
Worldwide	96.66	103.20	+2.00	0.81
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	415.60	442.10†	+3.80	1.58
-do- Accum	562.50	598.80	+3.80	1.58
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	282.30	300.30†	-0.30	1.61
-do- Accum	353.40	375.90	-0.39	1.61
Select Oppty Inc	102.80	108.80	+0.80	1.45
-do- Accum	111.60	118.49	+1.90	3.45
Income Plus Inc	409.50	435.60	+0.90	6.50
-do- Accum	539.80	572.80	+0.80	6.56
European Inc	626.20	664.80	+0.80	0.56
-do- Accum	108.10	114.90	+6.70	1.33
Far Eastern Inc	128.60	134.60	+0.78	1.33
-do- Accum	43.69	46.47	+0.80	
Japanese Inc	438.80	466.10	+5.40	0.25
Nth American Inc	486.18	516.30	+5.10	0.25
-do- Accum	229.80	245.10†	+3.00	2.33
UK Growth Inc	101.40	107.20	+0.80	0.76
Wwide Venture Inc				
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 655 6724				
Equity Inc	555.70	587.10	+8.20	1.92
-do- Accum	978.10	1018.30	+12.80	1.92
UK High Inc #	288.30	303.50	+3.80	2.87
-do- Accum #	426.50	453.10	+6.50	2.87
Europe Inc	500.00	533.00†	+3.80	0.39
Nth Amer Inc	397.80	422.70	+3.20	0.16
Global Inc	288.10	306.40	+5.20	0.37
Global Acc	312.80	330.40	+5.80	0.37
UK Spec Sits Inc	155.90	164.20	+1.10	1.85
South East Asia	122.10	129.10	+6.00	1.24
Cash Trust Inc	100.70	100.70	+0.00	0.73
UK Smlr Cos Inc	136.60	144.30		7.94
-do- Accum	146.20	154.50	-0.80	1.94
Intl Bond Inc	88.98	93.14	-0.90	1.94
International Stkt	88.84	94.10	+0.40	3.25
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	200.80	211.40†	+1.80	0.26
Nth American	167.80	175.80†	+1.20	
Intl Bond & Curr	136.10	143.30	-0.10	5.73
Pooled Pension	278.40	296.40	+3.50	3.01
Smaller Cos	137.50	144.70	-1.80	1.88
UK General #	207.60	218.50	+6.80	1.95
Far Eastern	59.30	62.50	+2.05	0.69
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 8229				
Continental	114.20	120.60†	+1.00	0.70
Global Gwth	92.53	97.77	+1.08	1.00
Inv Tst Fnd	63.61	68.24	+0.52	0.86
Managed	1532.56	1601.93†	+19.00	2.10

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Prol Inc #	110.50	117.50†	+0.80	3.16
Smaller Cos	284.30	303.20†		0.80
Ireland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	108.37		+0.49	4.80
Sterling Reserve ‡	101.33		+0.08	5.36
Corporate Inc ‡	103.95		+0.20	3.70
Tal Pan ‡	78.69		+2.61	
Adec ‡	78.06		+2.11	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	171.94		+1.25	
European ‡	202.17		+0.82	3.68
Global Bond ‡	91.83		-0.38	7.66
Sonara ‡	42.83		+0.11	
UK Growth ‡	129.71		+1.11	2.01
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	100.10		+0.11	2.05
Investment Trust ‡	123.16		+0.07	1.21
The Football Fd ‡	81.24		+0.51	
Reserve Roll Up ‡	103.14		-0.13	
Quest Reserve ‡	98.53		-0.00	3.86
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	562.00	594.10	-0.28	
Capital	170.70	180.60	+3.20	1.28
Cash	101.81	101.81	+0.01	6.76
European	193.30	204.40	+1.50	0.34
Far Eastern	129.40	136.80	+4.80	
Growth	202.40	214.20	+1.80	1.10
Income #	171.80	181.70	+1.80	4.38
Magnum	175.80	186.00	+2.90	1.35
Smlr Secs	661.50	700.00	+4.40	0.36
Thoroughbred	205.30	217.20†	+3.40	1.28
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0800 73 11 003				
Capital Preserve	62.12	65.40	+0.08	
Ethical	94.81	101.40	+0.60	
European Growth	102.60	109.70	+1.10	
Income #	72.30	77.32	+0.33	4.22
Intl Growth	128.20	127.30	+1.30	0.33
Managed	108.60	115.10	+1.28	0.39
UK Growth	88.25	94.38	+0.37	1.18
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	52.22	58.49	+0.79	0.86
Global Advtg Acc	57.34	57.63	+0.70	0.86
Income Advtg Inc	45.25	45.48†	+0.08	3.28
Income Advtg Acc	54.98	55.28	+0.70	3.28
UK Equity Gth Acc	126.90	134.60	+1.28	0.98
Premier Inc Inc	54.14	56.04†	-0.10	6.27
Premier Inc Acc	62.22	64.40	-0.18	6.27
Managed Acc	71.84	76.16	+0.68	1.46
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	53.53	56.75	+0.68	3.88
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	73.98	78.42	+0.88	3.38
UK Smlr Cos Acc	57.98	61.44	+0.58	0.40
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	104.00	110.30	+1.80	1.44
UK Equity Gen Inc	73.12	77.78	+1.18	1.44
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	34.85	36.86		5.86
Oases Lrg Co Acc	373.30	405.18	+5.60	5.54
Nth American Acc	74.93	79.62	+0.80	0.81
Pacific Basin	30.33	30.33	+0.80	1.91
European Acc	68.40	72.78	+0.50	0.19
Japan Acc	21.25	22.58	+1.80	0.75
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZS)	5.270	5.598		
US Eqts (USS)	4.555	4.832		
Far East Eqts (yen)	214.90	227.90		
FT Europe	194.18	206.10		0.99
FT N Amer (USS)	3.757	3.991		
FT Japan (yen)	100.00	105.49		
FT Asia Ex Jap (USS)	1.856	1.972		0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	618.20	652.70	+7.50	
British #	1611.90	1705.40	+22.30	2.13
Emging Mkts	148.80	158.00	+4.10	0.57
Euro Gwth Inc	120.80	128.00	+0.60	
Euro Small Co	62.52	66.56	-0.28	
Japan	89.61	95.04	+0.60	
Asia Pacific	307.80	327.20	+9.80	1.83
-do- Accum	334.90	356.00	+10.50	1.83
Inv Trust Acc	328.80	348.50	+2.50	1.82
Mngd Equity	237.80	251.40	+1.80	1.96
Mngd Cash	95.62	95.62	+0.04	6.72
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Asia Pacific	14.58	15.49	+0.62	2.86
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	108.69	113.50	+0.87	6.18
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	118.11	125.64	+0.95	6.18
European	64.69	69.82	+0.13	0.29
Japan	28.13	29.93	+0.11	0.01
Managed Assets	169.75	180.49†	+1.18	2.05
North American	58.80	65.62	+0.45	0.26
Smlr Co's Inc	41.42	44.07	+0.26	1.53
Smlr Co's Acc	46.34	49.29	+0.29	1.53
UK Growth Inc	82.00	87.24†	-0.20	1.08
UK Growth Acc	95.29	101.38	-0.31	1.08
Extra Income #	58.10	62.14†	+0.39	3.95
Worldwide Gth	47.18	50.45†	+0.27	0.58
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 0117 989 9000				
Discretionary	61.04	64.94	+0.47	2.57
UK Income Inc	77.88	82.84	+0.82	2.57
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	39.98	42.27	+0.18	5.89
Mngd High Yld Inc	114.10	121.40	+0.65	3.52
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	107.10	113.80	+0.48	2.54
UK Smaller Cos	45.20	48.09	-0.99	1.91
Pacific Gth Port	32.82	34.31	+1.49	0.92
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 345 794				
American	393.22	416.10	+3.59	
-do- Accum	433.11	458.31	+3.85	
Brit Growth	158.84	168.08	+1.83	1.35
-do- Accum	201.24	212.95	+2.32	1.35
European	156.66	165.76	+1.14	
-do- Accum	167.33	177.07	+1.22	
Extra Income #	272.75	288.63	+2.36	3.78
-do- Accum #	521.90	552.26	+4.36	3.78
Smaller Cos	98.86	104.61	+0.15	0.88
-do- Accum	114.21	120.86	+0.18	0.88
General	455.41	481.91†	+4.82	1.55
-do- Accum	995.24	1053.17†	+10.53	1.55
Gilt	56.38	59.73	-0.02	5.42
Income	150.25	158.51	-0.07	5.42
Income #	367.87	388.20†	+4.24	2.91
-do- Accum #	1181.69	1250.37†	+11.50	2.91
Pacific	240.57	254.69	+8.97	2.22
-do- Accum	262.35	277.59	+9.49	2.22
International	720.80	762.95	+7.22	0.34
-do- Accum	952.73	1008.16	+9.20	0.34
Nat Resources	120.93	127.97	+2.32	0.77
Sterl Opps	161.35	170.75	+2.01	0.81
-do- Accum	214.99	227.50	+2.67	0.81
Environmental Inv	106.66	112.86	+1.25	0.51
Selector	91.02	96.31	+0.92	1.18
-do- Accum	107.80	113.95	+1.09	1.18
High Income #	88.11	93.24†	+0.84	3.84
-do- Accum #	126.77	134.15†	+0.91	3.84
Intl Income	64.66	68.42	-0.29	1.83
-do- Accum	89.64	94.85	-0.41	1.83
Selector Income	88.30	94.97	+0.42	0.98
-do- Accum	105.78	111.94	+0.55	0.98
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 687 1018				
British	529.11	553.80	+5.61	1.97
European	99.21	103.69	+0.20	1.06
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	258.95	274.03†	+1.75	3.09
Glob Growth Acc	306.27	324.10†	+2.08	3.10
Glob Bal Inc	210.12	222.35	+1.29	4.13
Glob Bal Acc	262.98	278.28	+1.56	4.13
Value Tst Inc	158.02	167.22†	+0.87	2.50
Value Tst Acc	180.60	191.11†	+0.98	2.50
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 520 8862				
Capital	117.80	125.30†	+0.70	0.56
International	76.05	80.69		
For Thornton see Dresdner RCM				
THREADNEEDLE INVESTMENTS				
Client Serv: 0800 0683000 Inter Serv: 0800 0684000				
Conversion Helpline: 0500 308227 (Unit and Oeic)				
Threadneedle Investment Services				
Managed Income	50.98	53.29†	+0.30	3.66
Cart Mgd Gth Acc	51.24	53.65	+0.17	4.14
Bal Mgd Gth Acc	49.60	51.93	+0.33	3.62
Adv Mgd Gth Acc	48.12	50.38	+0.49	0.89
Threadneedle Investment Funds (OEIC)				
Retail Shares (Class 1)				
UK				
UK Corporate Bd ‡	53.55		-0.18	6.91
UK Equity Inc # ‡	53.19		+0.48	
UK Growth ‡	53.86		+0.56	
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	49.95		+0.38	7.48
UK Money Secs ‡	50.41		+0.01	7.43
UK Monthly Inc #	49.92		+0.44	3.65
UK Select Gwth ‡	54.12		+0.58	1.91
UK Smaller Cos ‡	54.38		+0.29	0.87
International				
Amer Gwth Acc ‡	49.01		+0.51	0.10
European Growth ‡	51.71		+0.81	0.06
EEE Jap Gwth Acc ‡	31.86		+1.07	
Global Bond ‡	51.85		-0.27	6.91
Japan Gwth Acc ‡	34.61		+0.74	
Specialist				
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	49.75		+0.48	0.34
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	51.51		+0.39	
Asia Growth ‡	31.30		+1.31	0.19
Euro Sel Gwth ‡	49.35		+0.69	0.06
Emg Mkt Bd Fd ‡	52.24		-0.14	6.26
Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡	51.71		+0.25	
Gib Sel Gth Acc ‡	45.38		+0.41	0.71
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	51.98		+0.73	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	48.47		+1.27	
Institutional Shares (Class 2) (£500,000 min)				
UK				
UK Equity Inc #	55.26		+0.50	4.20
UK Growth ‡	53.78		+0.55	1.89
UK Gwth & Inc ‡	50.00		+0.56	2.59
UK Inst Gwth ‡	53.81		+0.48	1.70
UK Chass Eqs ‡	51.98		+0.78	3.09
UK Select Gwth ‡	54.18		+0.58	2.07
UK Sm Cos Gwth ‡	54.26		+0.24	1.44
International				
Amer Sel Acc ‡	49.11		+0.64	0.68
Euro Gwth Acc ‡	51.81		+0.64	0.50
FE & Jap Gth Acc ‡	31.72		+1.07	
Global Bond ‡	51.99		-0.25	
Japan Growth Acc ‡	34.05		+0.74	
Specialist				
Amer Sel Gwth ‡	49.85		+0.48	
Amer Sm Cos Gth ‡	51.53		+0.38	
Asia Growth ‡	31.59		+1.31	0.69
Euro Sel Gth Acc ‡	49.45		+0.69	0.55
Euro Sm Cos Gth ‡	61.75		+0.25	
Jap Sm Cos Gth ‡	51.98		+0.73	
Latin Amer Gth ‡	48.47		+1.26	
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 335				
UK Eq Inc Acc #	424.72	451.83	+2.47	3.87
UK Equity Gwth	456.11	485.22	+3.45	1.54
European	227.84	242.36	+0.60	0.49
Nth American	108.50	115.85	+0.88	
Far Eastern	55.54	59.09†	+1.62	0.78
Money	75.89	75.89†	+0.03	6.35
Fixed Interest #	81.36	86.56	-0.12	6.60
Index Linked Gilt	82.60	87.70	-0.21	1.52
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 955955				
Income Trust	113.50	113.50	-0.09	5.80
Pers Growth	129.31	129.31		
Pers Inc Trust	115.17	115.17		
UK Index Tracking	165.55	165.55	+0.40	1.99
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0131 551 7455				
Australasian Gold	11.95	12.58	+0.36	
Pacific Basin	20.94	22.04	+0.54	
Global Bond (USS)	0.9819	1.0320†	+0.0010	
Penny Share	42.13	44.35†	+3.45	
Japan Spec Cos	23.29	24.52	+0.13	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 628 2444				
Shrd Dtd Gilt	131.40	132.80	-0.02	
US Govt Bd (USS)	0.8187	0.8272	-0.02	6.20
Gilt Income	52.79	53.62	-0.05	4.80
Gilt Growth	58.43	59.82	-0.02	
Sterling Bond	52.43	53.35	-0.14	5.90
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	64.50	68.61	+0.70	1.72
UK Dividends	126.18	135.30	+0.59	2.18
Corporate Bd Inc	51.86	54.75	-0.05	5.49
Cp Actual	56.07	56.18	-0.07	5.05

Source: FT Information
* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). # Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

THE TIMES TUESDAY

Glo fror forg cor

The Royal Academy ... England ... and sham... R

The ... survey ... many of ... Jeffrey ... draughtsman ... collection ... towns ... works ... banished ... tory of ... helessness ... spectre of ... make the ... It all ... natural ... should ... regional ... is who ... exhibition ... Paintings ... snuffed ... of a run ... gallery ... unsuspect ... Some ... cleaned ... one special ... restoration ... a revelation ... van ... monument ... Pieter ... language ... Gallery ... obscure ... scaled ... once ... leap ... Paintings ... artists ... places ... marvellous ... Renaissance ... hallucinatory ... Barnard ... Inside ... found ... ones ... most ... ists. The ... even more ... electric ... in later ... swirling ... es the ... there ... attempt ... Within ... as Bows ... our ... brass ... view ... the opening ... connoisseur ...

The RA ...

Leeds ... British ... Not ... John ... an critic ... that the ... selected ... from the ... form part ... exhibition ... But the ... have been ... hear the ... "They have ... the regional ... words ... curator ... old ... books, the ...

HOLBEIN AMBAS ...

هكذا من الأصل

Glories from the forgotten corners

The Royal Academy's *Art Treasures of England* exhibition is both inspiring and shaming, Richard Cork writes

The Royal Academy's epic and vastly enjoyable *Art Treasures of England* could not be better timed. The survey arrives at a moment when many of its lenders are in crisis. As Jeffrey Sherwin outlines below, draconian cuts have reduced public collections in big cities and modest towns to penury. Far too many works are either poorly displayed or banished to the humiliating purgatory of storage. Morale among beleaguered staff is low, and the spectre of entry charges threatens to make the future even more woeful.

It all amounts to a national disgrace. We should take pride in our regional museums. That is why the Academy's exhibition is so salutary. Paintings too often snuffed out in the gloom of a run-down municipal gallery blaze, here, with unsuspected force.

> "Paintings hidden in municipal gloom blaze splendidly here"

Some have been cleaned specially, and in one spectacular instance restoration has produced a revelation. Abraham van Janssens's sumptuous and monumental allegory, *Peace and Plenty Binding the Arrows of War*, languished in Wolverhampton Art Gallery on a severely split panel obscured by dirt. Now, with cracks sealed up and paint-surface pristine once more, its exceptional vivacity leaps out.

Paintings by major European artists lurk in the most unexpected places. The Bowes Museum, a marvellous Victorian pastiche of a Renaissance château, rears like a hallucination on the edge of tiny Barnard Castle in Co Durham. Inside, superb paintings can be found, including an intense, luminous panel by Sassetta, one of the most outstanding early Sienese artists. The El Greco from the Bowes is even more arresting. Against an electric sky St Peter beseeches God in bitter repentance. The turbulence swirling through the clouds matches the saint's inner anguish, and there is nothing smug about his attempt to gain absolution.

Without collectors as discerning as Bowes and his wife Josephine, our regional museums would not boast many of the best images on view. Hence the decision to dedicate the opening room to a celebration of connoisseurs and donors. Zoffany's skilful painting of Charles Towneley and his friends stands out. Surrounded by the antique statues he amassed with such zeal, the be-wigged Towneley looks thoroughly at home. He did his best to turn his homes into Roman villas. Now one of them has become, in turn, the Towneley Hall Gallery in Burnley, a place of pilgrimage for anyone wanting to salute a devoted collector of classical sculpture.

Powerful carvings and bronzes punctuate the displays. They range from Alfred Gilbert's homoerotic *Perseus Arming*, lent by Cartwright Hall in Bradford, to Henry Moore's sprawling *Falling Warrior* from Huddersfield. An enchanting surprise is provided by the Holburne Museum in Bath, which recently acquired a carving by the 18th-century sculptor Giuseppe Pitura the Elder. He worked for a while in Bath, where his accomplished *Diana and Endymion* was probably executed. It is just as sensual, in a Rococo vein, as Rodin's *Sleeping Woman Visited by a Phantom*, on loan from Reading.

Devotees of draughtsmanship will find plenty to relish. Christ Church Picture Gallery in Oxford has lent some of its finest Old Master drawings. Pontormo's agitated *Deposition* stands out: a remarkably elaborate study for his most eloquent painting.

The watercolours are equally impressive. One of the finest collections has been built up at the Cecil Higgins Gallery in Bedford. From there comes Constable's *Coal Brigs on Brighton Beach*. The three ships have been pulled onto the sand, where their shadowy bulk provides a foil for spirited treatment of the luminous sky. But instead of allowing the clouds free rein, he pierces them with the thrusting linear intricacy of masts and rigging.

Later in the 19th century, Constable's élan gives way to densely obsessed Pre-Raphaelite detail, nowhere more microscopically than in George Price Boyce's watercolour of *Bolbrocombe Bay*. Lent by one of the least-known collections, the Astley Cheetham Gallery in Stalybridge, it is a tour de force of clear-eyed scrutiny.

In the end, though, the Impressionists were far more adventurous than the Pre-Raphaelites. Manet's watercolour copy of *Le Déjeuner sur l'Herbe*, lent by the Ashmolean in Oxford, is a miracle of understated audacity. However indebted his figures may be to Raphael and the High Renaissance, Manet gives them a provocative, brazen and wholly modern detachment.

But his deft handling of the landscape is not as invigorating as Renoir's *Gust of Wind*, another delectable Fitzwilliam loan. Everything in this canvas is alive with restless, blurred motion. The clouds surging over the hillside are blown as fast as the plants and bushes below. Renoir allows the brush-marks to slide and slither as he animates every inch of his exuberant hymn to volatility.

Two outstanding Impressionist pictures come from Birmingham's Barber Institute, whose director, Richard Verdi, curated the show with Jane Martineau, Norman Rosenthal and Giles Waterfield. Monet's *The Church at Varengeville* is a heady rush of ecstasy. Studying a sunset on the Normandy coast, Monet uses complementary colours and a boldly asymmetrical composition to heighten the dramatic melting of forms. Although dusk is descending, there is no melancholy here.

But in Degas' *Jockeys before the Race*, the whole canvas is suffused with a stoical sadness. A pole slices through the design, giving it tautness and distancing us from the riders. They are at their most tense, caught up in the expectancy of the moment. A pallid sun struggles to push through the mist, but it cannot dispel the chill on the desolate grass. And the face of the nearest jockey, bruised like a prizefighter, is one of Degas' most haunting images.

The representation of 20th-century art is weaker. True, there are paintings as exceptional as Franz Marc's barbaric *The Red Woman*, the most prized canvas in the remarkable German Expressionist collection at Leicester's New Walk Museum and Art Gallery. But the heroic years of modern art are patchily shown.

The timidity of English collectors in the 20th century is to blame. Apart from Courtauld, whose metropolitan buying could not be shown here, most of them shied away from modernism. So we have the home-grown Fauvism of Matthew Smith rather than Matisse.

Never mind. Presented with so many rewarding images from several centuries, it would be churlish to end with complaint. There are reassuring signs, in the final room dominated by Tony Cragg's excellent *Postcard Flag (Union Jack)* from Leeds City Art Gallery, that challenging new art is now finding its place in the most adventurous collections. Financial support by the National Art Collections Fund continues to be invaluable, and the Contemporary Art Society plays a key role in helping the regions to buy the liveliest work of today. Every Londoner will feel, after this tonic event, that a comprehensive tour of England's museums would be richly rewarded.

● Art Treasures of England, *sponsored by Peterborough United FC, opens on Thursday at the Royal Academy (0171-439 7438) and continues until April 13*



El Greco's *The Tears of St Peter*, from the Bowes Museum: the turbulence swirling through the clouds matches the saint's anguish

AROUND THE GALLERIES

■ THE advantage of the January cessation in auction activity is that some very imposing gallery space in the heart of the West End is free for temporary exhibitions. There are four currently in the Grand Rooms and the Ryder Street galleries of Christie's.

Three of them are meant to familiarise us with public collections we might well otherwise not know. Two of those are in Bath: the permanent collections of the **Holburne Museum**, and the reassembly of materials from **William Beckford's** collections documenting his hilltop folly, the Lansdown Tower. The third show concerns **Somerset House** as it will be when the Courtauld Institute galleries are extended and the Wernher and Gilbert Collections are housed in new galleries to be made in the South (Thameside) Wing. And the fourth marks, a few days late, the bicentenary of Heinrich Heine's birth and concerns his visit to London in 1827.

The Holburne Museum is one of England's great unsung treasure houses. The original collection was formed by an inhabitant of Victorian Bath, Sir William Holburne, who collected the sort of Old Master and more recent British painting fashionable at the time, but also had an extraordinary interest in ornate continental metalwork. The treasures brought to London include paintings by Gainsborough, Reynolds, Raeburn, Ramsay, Stubbs and Zoffany.

Beckford moved into Lansdown Crescent, Bath, after wisely selling his fantastic Gothic mansion Fonthill before the fall of the tower wrecked it. The show **Builder of Towers**, in aid of the restoration appeal, reconstructs a typical interior.

Sir Julius Wernher (1850-1912) collected rather similarly to Holburne, but much more grandly: his pictures include Titian, Rubens and Metsu, and his *objets* stretch to superb Beauvais tapestries, Limoges enamels, majolica, medieval ivory carvings and Renaissance bronzes. Arthur Gilbert was originally a Londoner, but has lived (and evidently prospered) in California since 1949. In 1996 he decided to give his incredible collection of classic silver to the British nation: it includes masterpieces by Paul de Lamerie and Paul Storr.

After all this rich-man's splendour **For Freedom's Battle — Heinrich Heine and England** is relatively self-effacing, but it provides a fascinating image of Regency London. Heine's experience of London ranged from high society to the brothels and the penny entertainments, and all of it is here.

*Christie's, 8 King Street, SW1 (0171-839 9060). Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sun 2-5pm, until Feb 3 (*Beauties of Bath *and* Somerset House*). Feb 6 (*Builder of Towers *and* For Freedom's Battle*)*

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

The RA show is great, says Jeffrey Sherwin — but if only the regions could afford their own

Pity the poor provinces

Leeds City Art Gallery has "the most important collection of modern British art outside London". Not my words, but those of John Russell Taylor, the *Times* art critic. Not surprising, then, that the Royal Academy has selected as many as 13 works from the Leeds collection to form part of its splendid new exhibition (see above).

But the Academy might have been surprised to overhear the following complaint: "They have been round raping the regional galleries." Those words came from a senior curator, sitting behind a pile of old catalogues, reference books, transparencies and an unwelcome report on the roof. "It's great to have a pat on the back from time to time, but it would be a sight better if we could afford to put on a major exhibition ourselves," she added.

The Royal Academy exhibition is going to be a huge show accompanied by an important catalogue. With transport costs in the region of £130,000 and installation costs of £100,000, it is still not extravagant by international standards. Yet compare this with the Leeds allocation of just £11,800 for a whole year's exhibition programme, and the cause of our curator's frustration is obvious.

I believe there is a solution, but it has to be based on the world as it really exists. First, the reality of sponsorship is that most big sponsors like to be associated with big London institutions and exhibitions, even if the company itself has a strong regional base. London is so good for entertaining, for the corporate image, for the opportunity to meet the great and the good. In the regions you are likely to find the senior curator helping to pour out the wine and wash up the glasses afterwards. So if you wish to encourage serious sponsorship in the regions, the money must be found for serious exhibitions in the regions.

The next awkward bit of reality is that it takes approximately two years to plan and execute a major exhibition, and you have to know where the money is to come from. But the regional gallery cannot know how much cash the local authority, with its annual spending review, is going to allocate for exhibitions until the last minute, and thus the politically aware gallery director will tailor the exhibition programme down to a very modest and attainable product. And because the product is not as attractive as it might be, the level of sponsorship will be accordingly lower.

An important exhibition housed in an average sized regional gallery can cost between £60,000 and £100,000, and takes approximately two years to curate. The regional art galleries are run by some of the best trained and imaginative staff in the world, but are denied resources in terms of both cash and technical staff. However, if every gallery, however small, were allowed, once every two years, to make a budgeted submission for the *total* cost of one carefully researched exhibition, then the effect on our local galleries would be both electric and immediate.

It would work like this. A gallery would have internal discussions and agree on one "really good idea" for an exhibition. This would then be submitted to a selection committee financed by lottery money, and if it passed all the tests of originality, practicality and academic integrity, the cash would be allocated.

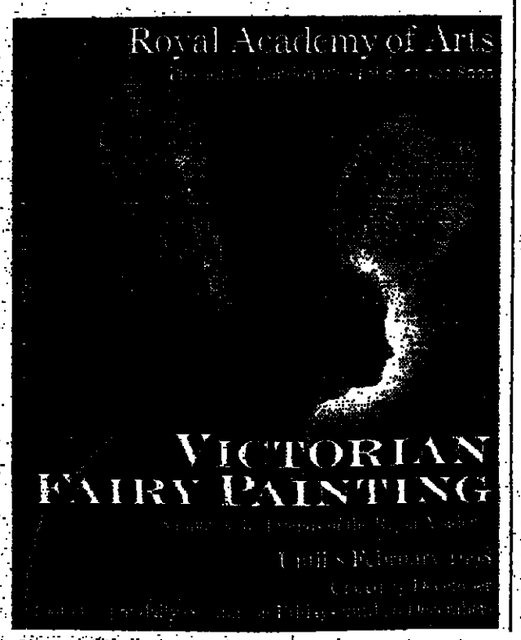
With the money guaranteed, the system would encourage sponsorship, allowing the money saved to be reallocated for the following fallow year when no applications would be considered. So there would be every incentive to go out and approach companies.

The exhibition at the Royal Academy is a long overdue tribute to the artistic and curatorial integrity of the regional galleries, yet not one of those contributing would have any chance of finding the cash to do anything approaching its excellence. Now is the time to provide our regional galleries not just with a pat on the back but with cash. Leeds City Art Gallery, with its £11,800 for a 12-month exhibition programme serving a population of three-quarters of a million people, cannot be allowed to be the way forward.

● *Dr Sherwin is a former chairman of the Yorkshire Arts Association and Leeds Leisure Services*

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Proper French dressing

Sheila Johnston meets Carole Bouquet, actress and *bon vivant*

DES JENSON



Carole Bouquet plays a Resistance heroine in her new film: at 40 "you're not playing bimbos any more", she says

Everything about Carole Bouquet exudes an understated elegance, from the fragrant name to the smart-casual *rive droite* wardrobe and the perfect almond-shaped grey-green eyes in the perfect oval ivory face. It's a peculiarly French style — *bon chic bon genre* — which demands high maintenance, a Spartan regimen and the daily application of costly unguents.

"Sometimes I eat much too much, because I am not very rational," says Bouquet, lighting a cigarette (and adding that she generally uses the cheapest face cream available). "I love food and I love kitchens and I love cooking dinner for friends. The smell of garlic and basil always brings me good memories."

The next surprise is her voice. Unexpectedly deep and laced with the throaty laugh of one who does not take herself too seriously, it seems not quite to belong to the chiselled features. But Bouquet has never fitted the mould of the classical *grande dame*, flitting instead between haute couture beauty (as the face of Chanel No 5 for the past 12 years), art-house icon and — in comedies like Michel Blanc's spoof on stardom, *Grosse Fatigue* — mainstream comedienne.

She began her career as an icy siren in *That Obscure Object of Desire*, the last film by the Spanish maestro Luis Buñuel, swiftly followed by duties as Bondmaiden to Roger Moore in *For Your Eyes Only*, and thence to Prague for a film about women in a lunatic asylum by the German avant-garde director, Werner Schroeter.

Her latest film, *Lucie Aubrac*, is based on the real case of a Resistance fighter who saves her husband's life through guile and daring. When Bouquet speaks of meeting the woman who inspired it, it's clear what drew her to the role. "You walk into her place and you understand in one second who that woman is: her wit, her strength, her vitality. The way she eats life, she loves life.

"There are no hidden corners in her. She says what she thinks and she knows what she wants. She is at 85, I'm sure, exactly the same as she was at 20 or 30. She was a very beautiful woman, and she knew it. I met some of her friends, men, and they all said they were madly in love with Lucie when she was 25. She loved clothes, much more than I do by the way. In fact if you look at photos of the war, you see women, obviously not wealthy ones, queueing for bread, and they're all wearing hats, gloves, bags. She was part of that generation and she liked it — she could put on a show."

Bouquet dismisses a recent French book questioning Aubrac's story. "We were infuriated. The writer was not a historian and did not even talk to the people who were there. When somebody has talent or is brave, it reassures me because I feel it's part of humanity and so part of me somehow, even though I might not have that talent or that courage. But I guess some people are afraid or jealous of it."

She has never hesitated to speak her mind. She is active in L'Alternative, a charity for the protection of children, and has attacked the Loi Debré which legislates against immigrants *sans papiers*. And, in one bizarre interlude, she had her phone tapped in 1993 by an undercover unit within the Elysée Palace.

"It was serious stuff. They had a list of people: journalists, arms dealers, Algerian terrorists and lawyers who had been defending them. I was the only actor on it. I guess they thought I was trafficking tanks or machineguns. They even went on tapping my phone after I moved house. I hope they had a good time doing it." By some accounts she was bugged on suspicion of being François Mitterrand's mistress, a suggestion she finds vastly amusing. "I'd never even spoken to him, met him, shaken his hand. If he had a fantasy about me, I didn't know about it, that's for sure."

She makes no secret of her recent romance with the actor (and fellow *bon vivant*) Gérard Depardieu. They had known each other for ever, having met on Bertrand Blier's *Buffet Froid* in 1979, but finally become more than good friends while working together in the theatre two years ago. "It was not a conscious decision," she says simply. "One day you realise that you miss somebody. When he comes to the door, life comes to the door at the same time, and you're happy to be alive."

Next is a film with Depardieu, which he will also direct. And at 40 Bouquet has no worries about her career. "You get women's parts: you're not playing bimbos any more. You don't have youth and the beauty of innocence, but you have other things: you know how to work and how to use yourself. I would say that it's much more pleasant for me now."

Isabella Rossellini might have been sacked by Lancôme for failing to remain eternally young ("They were stupid," snorts Bouquet), but her own arrangement with Chanel is still in place. And, more pressingly, there are plans for dinner. Surely there must be a clause in her contact requiring her to stay in trim? "It doesn't say anything of the kind," she declares roundly. "I would never sign a contract like that."

● *Lucie Aubrac is released in Britain on Friday and reviewed Thursday*

Light-fingered marvel

THEATRE

Quatre Mains

ICA

In a glass cabinet in the foyer of the ICA, British artist Martin Creed is selling his unlimited edition of balled up pieces of A4 paper at £10 a sheet. In the theatre Jozef Houben and Andrew Dawson are selling a limited number of tickets at £8.50 for a show that stars a table top and their four hands. Are we being taken for a ride? Of course. One is a pure piece of minimalist nonsense, the other a pure piece of minimalist mime.

Quatre Mains is no playground game of potatoes, but an enormously sophisticated piece of choreography that, at times, puts one in mind of animated Plasticine, at others, of the physical ingenuity of Theatre de Complicite. Not so surprising given that Dawson was responsible for the recent stage production of *Wallace and Gromit*, and Houben has been a member of Complicite since 1984.

As well as their hands, we see their inscrutable faces, their matching black poloneck sweatshirts and black chinos. The first minutes are an ominous piece of Gary Newman robotics. Hands swinging like pendulums while a female voice from outer space crackles "Man is capable of infinite torment . . ."

The doomsday music subsides to a humming voice and the hands magically take on personalities of their own. If anything it is the silent actors who start looking disembodied as fingers twine with unnatural intimacy, pushing puddles of invisible mercury around the table or squashing an obstinate piece of empty space into a handmade box. There are inexplicably funny bits of slapstick, like the tipsy forefinger circling a ring of torch light, trying to jump over four fingers.

Despite a seemingly small canvas Dawson and Houben play havoc with mood and perspective. The grey, velvet table top, slanted towards the audience, becomes a raked stage when a pair of fingers sashay over its surface. We witness the end of a grand romance as one pair of digits turn on a fingernail and stalk off in the opposite direction. This is probably the purest piece of mime in the London International Mime Festival, for the simple reason that Dawson and Houben make their limitations seem utterly illusory. You can't do that with screwed up pieces of A4.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

LONDON

CYMBELINE: A heart-catching Imogen from Joanna Pearce is at the centre of Adrian Noble's fine and moving production. With Paul Freeman as Iachimo (a little Iago) and Damian Lewis as Posthumus. Transfer from Stratford.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Opens tonight, 7pm. In rep.

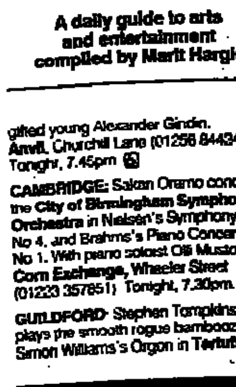
FASCINATING AIDA: Eleven performances only, reviving their hit show from last year, *It, Wit, Don't Give a S*** Girls*, before the trio set off on a world tour.
Lyric, King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until Jan 31

SCOTTISH FOLK: It is toe-tapping time as champion Scottish fiddler Alasdair Fraser brings his group Skyedance to the South Bank. A line-up of flute, pipes, percussion, piano and bass complements Fraser's fine fiddling in a programme featuring new music steeped in the Celtic tradition.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.45pm

THE SIXTEEN: Harry Christophers conducts his early-music ensemble in a concert celebrating the musical legacy resulting from the marriage of Philip II of Spain to Mary Tudor of England in 1554. On offer are works by Tallis, John Sheppard and the Spanish court composers Guerrero and Manchicourt.
St John's, Smith Square, SW1 (0171-222 1061). Tonight, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: In one of the season's highlights the eminent Russian pianist and conductor Vladimir Askenazy leads the **Philharmonia Orchestra** in a concert of Prokofiev's *War and Peace* overture, Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 and Dvořák's Seventh Symphony. Piano soloist is the gifted young Alexander Gindin.
Anvil, Churchill Lane (01256 844244). Tonight, 7.45pm



Vladimir Askenazy conducts in Basingstoke

CAMBRIDGE: Sakari Oramo conducts the **City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra** in Nielsen's Symphony No 4, and Brahms's Piano Concerto No 1. With piano soloist Olli Mustonen.
Corn Exchange, Wheeler Street (01223 357851). Tonight, 7.30pm.

GUILDFORD: Stephen Tompkinson plays the smooth rogue bamboozling Simon Williams's Orgon in **Tartuffe**, Molière's comic classic of religious hypocrisy. Touring company includes Isla Blair, Maria Charles.
Yvonne Arnaud, Millbrook (01483 440000). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Thur, 7.45pm, Fri, Sat, 8pm, mats Thur, Sat, 2.30pm. Until Jan 31

LEEDS: **Weekend Breaks** is John Godber's latest comedy, about a writer escaping from his family to revisit the Lakes and who, for some reason, invites his parents along.
Courtyard, West Yorkshire Playhouse, Quarry Mount (0113-244 2111). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Wed (from Jan 28), 2pm, Sat (not Feb 14), 3pm.

MANCHESTER: Elgar Howarth conducts a special anniversary concert by the London Symphony Orchestra featuring soloists who have all been winners of the Shell LSO Music Scholarship. Janice Graham, violin, Ian Bousfield, trombone, Neil Percy, percussion, and Simon Carrington, timpani, demonstrate their individual virtuosity in a programme featuring Mendelssohn, Gordon Jacob, and the world premiere of Philip Cashian's *Night Journeys*. Britten's rousing *Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* provides the evening's fitting climax.
Bridgewater Hall, Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000). Tonight, 7.30pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

British Museum: Cartier (0171-323 8525) . . . **Goethe Institute**: Beautiful World (0171-594 0214) . . . **Lisson**: Anish Kapoor (0171-724 2739) (0171-600 0807) . . . **Museum of the Moving Image**: Hammer Horror (0171-815 1350) . . . **National**: Recognising Van Eyck (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Portrait**: Sir Henry Raeburn **Royal Academy**: Victorian Fairy Painting (0171-439 7438) . . . **Tate**: Paul Winstanley (0171-887 8000) . . . **Whitechapel**: Thomas Schütte (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

■ **ALEGRIA**: The Cirque de Soleil returns. Acrobats, contortionists, fire dancers doing marvels with their bodies, usually high up in the air.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tue-Sun, 7.45pm, mats Sat and Sun, 2.30pm. Until Feb 8

■ **ART**: Roger Allam, Mick Ford and Jack Dee in this exceptionally interesting drama about friendship, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white painting.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat and Sun, 5pm

■ **THE CHAIRS**: Richard Briers and Geraldine McEwen superb in Ionesco's comic portrait of human hopes and folly. Simon McBurney directs for Complicite, design by the Quay Brothers.
Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-565 5000). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Jan 31

□ **CYRANO DE BERGERAC**: The sell-out RSC production from Stratford, with Antony Sher as Rostand's tragic romantic hero, in London for a limited season. Gregory Doran directs.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5054). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2pm.

◪ **A DELICATE BALANCE**: Eileen Atkins hauntingly chilling in welcome revival of Albee's play about marriage, parenthood and neighbourliness. Maggie Smith plays the drunk sister. Anthony Page directs.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm

□ **DON'T LAUGH IT'S MY LIFE**: John Wright's Told By An Idiot is the first British company playing this year's London International Mime Festival, and brings its celebrated skills to a production inspired by *Tartuffe*.
BAC, Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 6pm.

◪ **AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE**: Ian McKellen plays the spa doctor pitting himself against the community in Trevor Nunn's highly detailed production.
National Theatre (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, Thur, 7.15pm; mat today, 2pm. Final performance Thur

◪ **THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR**: Jonathan Kent directs Tom Hollander as the presumed inspector, Brian Murphy as his servant and Ian McDiarmid as the devious Mayor in Gogol's comedy.
Almeida Theatre, 1A Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3pm. Until January 31.

□ **AN IDEAL HUSBAND**: Return of Peter Hall's enjoyable production, brimful of deceptions. Starring Martin Shaw and Simon Ward, and Kate O'Mara as the svelte troublemaker.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thur 3pm and Sat, 4pm.

□ **JOURNEY'S END**: Sam West plays the stricken young captain in R.C. Sherriff's still exciting play about the First World War
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mat Sun, 3pm

□ **THE MAGISTRATE**: Ian Richardson plays the much harassed hero in a fitfully funny revival of Pinero's farce. Cast includes Graham Crowden, Frank Middlemass, John Padden.
Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

□ **STEPPING OUT**: Musical version of Richard Harris's hit play (music and lyrics by Denis King and Mary Stewart David). Julia McKenzie directs Liz Robertson and her hopeful hoofers.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thur, 3pm and Sat, 4pm

LONG RUNNERS

□ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . . □ **Cats**: New London (0171-405 0072) . . . ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Garrick (0171-494 5085) . . . □ **Jesus Christ Superstar**: Lyceum (0171-656 1807) . . . □ **Martin Guerre**: Prince Edward (0171-447 5400) . . . □ **Les Misérables**: Palace (0171-434 0909) . . . □ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) . . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) . . . □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN: Eisenstein's unassailable classic about a Russian sailor's mutiny; made in 1925.
Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) **NFT** (0171-928 3232)

◆ **BRING ME THE HEAD OF MAVIS DAVIS** (15): Record producer tries to bump off his troublesome star. Flat comedy, with Rik Mayall and Jane Horrocks. Director, John Henderson
Virgin Trocadero (0181-970 6015)

◆ **BOOGIE NIGHTS** (18): Dynamic epic about the porn movie industry, from a young director Paul Thomas Anderson. Burt Reynolds, Mark Wahlberg and Julianne Moore head the excellent cast.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **Plaza** (0990 888990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ **THE DEVIL'S ADVOCATE** (18): Satanic Al Pacino invites Keanu Reeves to his New York law firm. Preposterous drama, both appalling and fun. Director, Taylor Hackford
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Notting Hill Coronet** (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4255) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0181-970 6015)

DEVIL'S ISLAND (15): Wastrels and dreamers in an Icelandic slum in the 1950s. Harsh comedy-drama, a disappointment from Cold Fever director Fridrik Thor Fridriksson
Everyman (0171-435 1525) **Metro** (0171-437 0757) **Minema** (0171-235 4225)

PRETTY VILLAGE PRETTY FLAME (18): Forceful drama about the madness and heartbreak of the Bosnian civil war. Director, Srdjan Dragojevic
ICA (0171-930 3647)

CURRENT

◆ **THE JACKAL** (18): Bruce Willis's hired killer plots a political assassination. Proficient, uninspired thriller. With Richard Gere, Diane Venora. Director, Michael Caton-Jones
ABC Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Odeon Empire** (0990 888990) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0990 888990) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0181-970 6015)

◆ **STARSHIP TROOPERS** (15): Hotshot soldiers battle alien insects. Brazen blockbuster with great effects and a cheeky attitude. Paul Verhoeven directs a young, largely unknown cast (Casper Van Dien, Denise Richards)
ABC Tottenham Court Rd (0171-636 6148) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Odeons: Camden Town** (0181-315 4229) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Marble Arch** (0181-315 4216) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220) **West End** (0181-315 4221) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3303) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

◆ **THE WINGS OF THE DOVE** (15): Pretty but piffling adaptation of Henry James's novel, with Helena Bonham Carter, Linus Roache and Alison Elliott. Director, Iain Softley
Barbican (0171-382 7000) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Curzon Mayfair** (0171-369 1720) **Greenwich** (0181-235 3005) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366) **Virgins: Fulham Road** (0181-970 6016) **Haymarket** (0181-970 6016) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

THE WINTER GUEST (15): Dutiful recreation of Sharman Macdonald's play, about criss-crossing lives in a Scottish coastal town. Alan Rickman directs. Phyllida Law and Emma Thompson enliven the cast
Odeons: Haymarket (0181-315 4212) **Kensington** (0181-315 4214) **Swiss Cottage** (0181-315 4220)

ART GALLERIES

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Mon 19 Jan 7.30pm	LONDON MOZART TRIO. Dvořák: Piano Trio in E minor Op.90 Dumky; Shostakovich: Trio No.2 in E minor Op.67; Schubert: Trio in E flat D929. £15.00, £12.50, £10.00, £7.50. Mgt: Erica Goddes
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Wed 21 Jan 6.00pm NB: time	LISA MILNE soprano, IAIN BURNSIDE piano. Song Recital Series, Voices at Wigmore Hall. Strauss: Begegnung; Wiegenliedchen; Leises Lied; Die Nacht; Jung Hexenlied; Muttertändelei; 3 Ophelia Lieder; 5 Lieder Op.48. All seats £7. Wigmore Hall/BBC Radio
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Thurs 22 Jan 7.30pm	GRAHAM SCOTT piano. Beethoven: 6 Bagatelles Op.126; Chopin: Impromptu Op.36; Nocturne Op.27 No.2; Barcarolle Op.60; Schumann: Sonata in F sharp minor Op.11; Skryabin: Sonata No.9 Black Mass. £11, £9, £7, £5. Kirckman Concert Society, Sarah Gordon Concert Management
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THE TIMES TUESDAY

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The prince and the showman

CONCERTS

Wigmore Hall

Wigmore Hall audiences are not known for sitting on their hands, but to hear them belting out "Mud, mud, glorious mud" is something else besides. The readiness with which they responded to the tiniest beckoning of Bryn Terfel indicated that they would have gladly been at his feet mastering the niceties of *cynghanedd* too, given the chance.

That, for readers east of Offa's Dyke, is a peculiarly fetching pattern of internal rhyme and alliteration, not a million poetic feet away from the habits of Old Norse, and beguilingly exploited by the poet of *Yr Hwyr (Evening)*. By composing a simple sequence of undistracting piano chords, Meirion Williams (1901-1976) recreated it as a tender ballad, relished to the full by Terfel and his pianist Malcolm Martineau, just before the *Hippopotamus* encore.

But let no one come away with the impression that this recital was either frivolous or eccentric. Even when not actively encouraging a singalong, Terfel's showmanship is, paradoxically and wonderfully, calculated to discourage mere spectator sport. No one on Friday could have gently tapped the foot and let the familiar fragrance of Schubert's *Serenade* drift over them in passive delight. Neither could anyone have sat only respectfully through Brahms's Four Serious Songs.

The sheer depth and vibrancy of Terfel's imaginative input, and his unwillingness to take a moment's musical or verbal inflection for granted, creates a unique quality of engagement in the listener. This is sharpened still further by his programming. Schubert's Shakespeare was later echoed by Finzi's; and a crescendo of dark drama in three Schumann rarities tuned ear and spirit for the Brahms.

Terfel's control of a vast range of dynamics and timing in Schumann's setting of Heine's long *Belshazzar* poem made it as chilling as the writing on the wall itself. And his vision of *The Treasure-Seeker*, in all its harrowing ambiguity, dug deep into the substrata of his bass register to thrilling effect.

In many ways, though, it is often Terfel's English repertoire that is the most affecting. Possibly because English really is his second language, Terfel tastes it and tests it with rare seriousness, wit and relish: I can't remember when I have heard the five Shakespeare songs of Finzi's *Let us garlands bring* raised to such stature in performance. Martineau, one of the first accompanists ever to work with Terfel, was a lively and loyal partner throughout this outstanding recital.

HILARY FINCH

Uneasy listening

Barbican Hall

CHURLISH as it may seem to be anything less than 100 per cent enthusiastic about the BBC's Martinů weekend at the Barbican — the latest in a magnificent annual series devoted to 20th-century composers — it was impossible not to notice signs of battle fatigue in some quarters.

That is not so much a reflection on Martinů's greatness: the series showed him to be a composer not quite in the league of, say, Bartók or Hindemith, but certainly in the premier division. It is more to do with the nature of his music, which has a driven, relentless quality that does not make for easy listening.

That quality was to the fore in the Piano Concerto No 3 in Saturday night's concert by the BBC Philharmonic under Vassily Sinaisky, with Boris Berezovsky the soloist. The outer movements illustrated the colour of the orchestral writing, the sheer bravura of the piano part. The central Andante, with its unpredictable forays into Bachian invention, enabled Berezovsky to explore more subtle keyboard gradations.

Vibrancy and fullness of tone were the defining characteristics of *The Frescoes of Piero della Francesca*, Martinů's vivid response to those masterpieces of the Italian Renaissance, while the somewhat less sublime atmosphere of a football match provided the inspiration for *Half-Time*. There was Stravinskian energy in abundance here, but little hint of rowdiness. The terraces must have been a very different place in the 1920s.

For the final concert on Sunday night, given by the BBC Symphony Orchestra under Jiří Bělohlávek, there was more freneticism in the Double Concerto for two string orchestras, piano (Igor Ardašev) and timpani (John Chimes). The agitation of the first movement exploded cathartically in the final bar, while the hell-for-leather finale invoked the defiant spirit of the times (1938).

The oriental quality often discernible in Martinů's music was evoked in the earlier *Nipponari*, a cycle of seven settings of Japanese lyrics, in which Marta Beňačková was the ample-toned mezzo soloist.

Providing the grand finale was the Symphony No 4 (1945), a euphoric expression of anticipated liberty. Even here, optimism was not unalloyed, and Bělohlávek was sensitive to the third movement's ambiguity, holding positive and negative elements adroitly in tension. The final movement combined vigour and broad gestures, with overarching string lines underpinned by deep brass. An ecstatic unity was forged here by conductor and orchestra, delivering a personal success for Bělohlávek, the moving spirit behind the series.

BARRY MILLINGTON

BUILDING A LIBRARY

A guide to the best available recordings, presented in conjunction with BBC Radio 3

WAGNER'S SIEGFRIED IDYLL
Reviewed by David Huckvale

WAGNER'S *Siegfried Idyll* was first performed as a birthday present for his wife, Cosima, on the staircase of Tribschen near Lucerne on Christmas Day 1870. The opening theme also appears in Wagner's music-drama *Siegfried*, at the moment when Brünnhilde pledges her love for Siegfried, and Wagner and Cosima clearly identified with those two heroes.

It was originally scored for a single flute, two clarinets, a trumpet, two horns, bassoon and a few strings — no more than 13 players in all. But Wagner sanctioned a larger orchestra, and the problem with this approach is to decide how lush you want to be. Too well-upholstered a tone coupled with a self-indulgent tempo can destroy the simple charm of the piece. Karajan, Kubelik, Celibidache and many others fall into this trap.

On the other hand, many accounts are too fast. Toscanini raced along at only just over 16 minutes, while Paul Paray is the fastest at only 15¼ minutes. The two larger versions which manage to get the right balance in tempo and instrumental focus are by Vladimir Ashkenazy with the English Chamber Orchestra, and Olaf Henzold and the Lucerne Symphony Orchestra.

Henzold, however, has the edge. He is just that bit faster at 17½ minutes, giving that sense of movement Wagner asks for, and he creates an excellent balance between the forces with a full-bodied sound while maintaining an Alpine freshness.

Of the original 13-player versions available Glenn Gould is painfully slow, while the string tone of Boulez is too shrill. The best is by Otto Klemperer. It has clarity, focus and warmth and the tempo is kept moving without sounding rushed. It's on a mid-price two-CD set, with Mahler's Ninth Symphony (EMI CMS 7632772, £19.99). Klemperer and the Philharmonia ensemble would fit comfortably on to the Triebschen staircase, and that's where Wagner's symphonic birthday greeting really belongs.

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Rodney Milnes is so sure that today's operas can match the greats that he bets his job on them



Here's a line-up to stir new blood

Opera, but opera-as-she-is-administered rather than the fat lady herself, has suffered so many largely self-inflicted public relations disasters over the past couple of years that you can understand sane, well-balanced people losing patience with it. Which is more or less what someone as sane and well-balanced as Richard Morrison, the Arts Editor of *The Times*, did in a fearsome diatribe here last month.

He dubbed opera the ultimate "executive toy". Tell that to the over-excited audience that stormed out of a performance in Brussels in 1830, burnt down the post office, and launched the revolution that led to Belgian independence. He said there were no more composers and a tiny repertory was being endlessly recycled by institutions, not artists — an echo of the much-loved "opera died with *Turandot*" theory. After 400 years, he wrote, opera had "reached the end of its natural life", and we should stop squandering money "to sustain an art form that has nothing new to say". Wow.

I would venture to disagree, but then I would, wouldn't I? Of course I am incredibly privileged in being able to travel a bit and see things from a global perspective, to visit Germany, Holland or Scandinavia where new operas are part of everyday life and such questions would never be raised. I have been lucky enough to witness the new-opera culture of America, which even Morrison recognises — Glass, Adams, Corigliano. American composers tend to go for the Grand Statement, or the easy-option adaptation (Susa's *Dangerous Liaisons*, say, or Previn's forthcoming *Streetcar Named Desire*), but you should eavesdrop on the endless debates about the future of the form in the technological era.

An extraordinary ten days in 1975 stick in my mind, ten days in which I saw three new operas. Simply attending the Cape Town dress rehearsal with a largely Xhosa audience of an opera about a fairly recent massacre was one of the most dramatic events of my life: the actual qualities (high) of Temmingh's *Enoch, Prophet of God* seemed almost irrelevant. Then there was Wallace's *Harvey Milk* in Houston, about the murder of the gay city supervisor in San Francisco: some of the people portrayed were still alive and attended the premiere. Finally there was Thea Musgrave's *Simon Bolivar* in Norfolk, Virginia, an entirely traditional, neo-19th-century "revolutionary" opera almost as inflammatory as that Brussels piece in 1830 (it was *La Muette de Portici* if you must know). And opera has nothing left to say?

I could go on, and I will. Sallinen's *Kullervo*, depicting a hideously violent cycle of revenge, was premiered in Los Angeles; ten days later the 1992 riots broke out, a doubtless fortuitous but nevertheless depressing example of life imitating art. I think the same composer's *The Red Line*, about the exploitation of illiterate peasants by both left and right in the first European election (Finland, 1907) in which women were given the vote, is one of the most sheerly accomplished new operas I have ever seen, written with barely contained fury and overwhelming compassion; the off-stage bear, symbol to Finns of their neighbour to the east, added an extra, more universal dimension.

It is sad that the only Sallinen opera to be staged here, *The King Goes Forth to France*, is by far his most "difficult" — not musically, I hasten to add, which is why it was condescendingly treated by some members of the press. He writes music that audiences want to hear, and his operas are played all over Europe.

It would be slightly unfair to conclude from the above that if opera has something to say, then it is saying it elsewhere. A case history: in the early 1950s certain musicians, managements and even some critics got excited about a Moravian composer no one had ever heard of. They played his operas, often to half-empty houses, until audiences got the message. Today Janáček is at the centre of the core operatic repertory, here and worldwide. Yes, it might have happened anyway, but it would have taken longer, and untold thousands would have been deprived of boundlessly enriching experiences. There are few more compelling arguments in favour of public subsidy.

> 'No one should countenance the waste of gifted composers'

Apply that elsewhere. Judith Weir is a prodigiously gifted opera composer. *A Night at the Chinese Opera* was hailed ten years ago as a milestone of contemporary opera. When Kent Opera, which co-commissioned it, was axed by the Arts Council, no other company bought Richard Jones's production to preserve it for the nation. Weir then cleared the fearful hurdle of the "second opera" with *The Vanishing Bridegroom* (1990), and a most shameful episode ensued. By now what might be dubbed the anti-Janáček, or Warnock, principle had surfaced — maximise your income above all else. Scottish Opera's longed-for revival of *Bridegroom* was scrubbed in favour of a revival of *Iolanthe*. How could the Scottish Arts Council have countenanced this?

Weir's third opera, the astonishing *Blond Eckbert*, was premiered in the wrong theatre by the wrong director, an unfortunate blip. But in a well-ordered operatic culture all three would be in someone's repertory, to be relished by audiences.

And in a well-ordered culture, no one would countenance the waste of another prodigiously gifted composer — Thea Musgrave. Her *Mary, Queen of Scots* and hugely likeable *Christmas Carol* were revivable and revived successes. *Harriet, the Woman Called Moses*, about the "underground railroad" Harriet Tubman devised for runaway slaves' (opera has nothing to say, huh?), was co-commissioned by our own Royal Opera, and 15 years later we are still waiting for the company to stage it. Simply because she now lives in the States, Musgrave is out of sight, out of mind. Oh, the waste of talent . . .

I cannot accept the Morrison argument. There are more 20th-century composers in the core repertory than there are 17th, 18th or 19th: go on, count them. The range of new opera on offer in this country alone is bewildering — forget Henze, Berio, Reimann, Bose etc for a moment. Birtwistle is a sort of ivory-tower hate-figure in some quarters, which helped (along with sensible seat prices) to ensure that the ROH's revival of *Gawain* was virtually sold out. Heroically un-downcast, Weir is writing another opera. After his invigoratingly "in-yer-face" *Greek*, Mark Anthony Turnage is turning into a rather more cuddly composer — that is not intended as an insult — and his setting of *The Silver Tassie* is half-finished. Unlike any of them — nearer Sondheim than Birtwistle — is Jonathan Dove, whose *Siren Song* was most beautifully written.

If, non-Warnockanly, all this work were "available", I have no doubt that audiences would support and be enriched by it. Give it a try, Chris Smith. Allow companies to take risks and, if I am proved wrong, then Richard Morrison can fire me.

Tunes of glory

POP

IF RADIOHEAD are British rock's angst-riddled sixth formers, then Supergrass are their pesky younger brothers, more manic than miserable. Their 1995 debut album, *I Should Coco*, was all boisterous charm and pent-up energy; it was a Mercury Prize nominee and the source of their biggest hit, the rollocking *Alright*. Last year's *In It For the Money* was a sharper, less larky record, but, with its amalgam of pop tunes and rock riffs, it was equally engaging.

Then their career seemed to falter slightly, partly through choice as they backed away from the limelight, and partly through accident. The current tour was due to start before Christmas, but drummer Danny Goffey broke his hand in suitably rock'n' roll fashion — by punching a car. Now they are up and running again, the old mischievous style still intact.

There is a film show as the stage is prepared. Cartoons (*Bugs Bunny* and *Roadrunner*) take turns with risible Government information warnings — Alvin Stardust and Kevin Keegan lecture on the Green Cross Code, Charlie the cat on the dangers of boiling water. And then it's straight into *I'd Like to Know* from the first album, followed by the title track of the second.

They fire off the songs like so many clay pigeons. Gaz Coombes, in regulation T-shirt and distinctive long sideburns, carries the tunes, his voice part yelp, part plea. Bassist Mick Quinn adds vocal colour. On a previous tour they used a horn section, but this time the original three-piece is supplemented only by Coombes's brother, Rob, on keyboards. It is his urgent Hammond riff that invigorates *Cheapskate*.

Midway through a longish set, the band's rock instincts give way to their pop ones. They include a perfunctory *Alright* and an eccentric cover of Kenny Rogers's *Conviction*. They seem altogether happier with their more raucous numbers — *Going Out* or *Time*, for example. But even with these, Supergrass aren't offering a wild show.

The band seem uninterested in showing off at all, just in getting the performance right. But you need only to notice Goffey's intense, passionate concentration, or Coombes's quick twitch as he tunes a string in the middle of a solo. Maybe with songs that fuse the belligerence of The Who with the quirky charm of the Small Faces, you just don't need to show off.

JOHN STREET



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LAW

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AS JUSTICE TURNS 40, IT JOINS WITH THE TIMES TO LAUNCH TWO AWARDS



Among prominent human rights lawyers are Geoffrey Bindman, left, Ms Gareth Peirce, Edward Fitzgerald, QC, and Professor Rosalyn Higgins

For righting wrongs

Frances Gibb on a new way to honour our most influential human rights campaigners

This week the Human Rights Bill is in its closing stages in the House of Lords before it returns to the Commons. The Bill, which incorporates into UK law the European Convention on Human Rights, will arguably have the greatest impact on the law since Britain signed the Treaty of Rome to join the Common Market. If passed, it will mean a revolution in the way courts look at the law and how judges decide their cases. Judges, said the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, recently, would be giving decisions on the "morality of the conduct, and not simply its compliance with the bare letter of the law".

The Human Rights Act could well be law by next year. But the detail of how it will work — the question of the right balance, for instance, between privacy and freedom of information — will be closely fought over. Justice, the all-party human rights group which has long campaigned for a Human Rights Act, is at the forefront of that campaign. So it is timely that this week, Justice — with *The Times* — launches two new legal awards in recognition of the work of lawyers, judges, politicians and others whose work has had an impact on the law and legal system.

Anne Owers, director of Justice, said: "*The Times*/Justice awards come at a critical period in the UK's constitutional and legal history. The incorporation of the European Convention provides a real opportunity to promote and enforce human rights in the UK. We hope the awards will recognise the lawyers, campaigners and others who will play a critical role in ensuring that these rights are effective and enforceable."

Justice also celebrates its 40th anniversary this year. When it began its work under Tom Sargant, its first secretary, a culture of complacency prevailed and miscarriages of justice were not acknowledged. Justice took up many of the alleged wrongful convictions and saw a succession of people released.

Its work culminated last year in the creation of the Criminal Cases Review Commission, a public body charged specifically with investigating alleged miscarriages of justice. Its next target is to ensure that the protection of individual rights in UK law, including access to the justice system itself, becomes a reality. The awards, it hopes, are a step towards promoting that end.

Ms Owers said: "As one of the leading organisations promoting human rights and legal reform, we wanted to celebrate our anniversary by marking the achievements of individuals and organisations who have made outstanding contributions to this field."

The awards fall into two categories: the first for an outstanding contribution to criminal justice and the second for an outstanding contribution to civil justice. Each is open to anyone — from lawyers or judges to journalists and campaigners — and to organisations and individuals.

The field is wide. There is the earlier generation of human rights lawyers, such as the solicitors Geoffrey Bindman, Alastair Logan (the Guildford Four) and Gareth Peirce (the Birmingham Six), as well as the new generation, the barristers Ben Emmerson and Edward Fitzgerald, QC, and solicitors such as Jim Nichol and Andrew McCooey.

There are also those such as Presiley Baxendale, QC (Scott inquiry), Professor Rosalyn Higgins (International Court), Francesca Klug (the human rights academic), as well as journalists such as David Jessell and the Legal Action Group, Liberty and the Terence Higgins Trust and other groups.

Many others — working outside central London or in less high-profile cases, are less well known.

The judges will be looking for one or more of the following: a long-standing commitment to human rights; the discovery of a key fact or argument in a case or cases by persistent and diligent work; help in advancing a better and fairer justice system, civil or criminal; a commitment to *pro bono* work and to helping those who have difficulty obtaining access to justice.

Nominations (*see coupon below*) should say in no more than 200 words why the work of the person or organisation is important. Those who successfully nominate the shortlisted candidates will also be invited to attend the awards presentation, to be made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Gordon Brown, at 11 Downing Street at an evening reception on March 26.

The award winners — who will receive a certificate and an engraved silver salver — will be chosen by a panel including the Master of the Rolls, Lord Woolf, Robert Ayling, the chief executive of British Airways, Chris Mullin, MP, Tony Holland, chairman of Justice's executive board, and Anne Owers, the director of Justice.

● *Nominations (deadline Monday, March 2) should be sent to Justice, 59 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AQ (0171-329 5100), or by e-mail to:*

Justice@gn.apc.org

Attachments must be in Asci or Wordperfect 5.2.

Barristers who face financial disaster

The danger of proposed Treasury changes on tax

The Treasury's proposed changes to the basis on which barristers and members of professions are taxed — proposals that were sneaked out just before Christmas — could spell financial disaster for many. The effect could be to make it difficult, once more, for people from modest backgrounds to become a barrister.

Barristers traditionally are taxed on the amount of fees paid in the relevant tax period rather than the amount of fees owed. The Treasury wants to change this and tax barristers on the basis of fees owed. Members of the Bar who rely on publicly funded work for their income will, therefore, be expected to pay tax to the Inland Revenue on fees owed to them by various government departments, yet have to wait months or even years to be paid.

Whatever the wait, barristers cannot charge interest. In addition, they will have to pay tax on an unknown amount.



HEATHER HALLETT, QC

I write as someone who does work for the Legal Aid Fund and for the Crown Prosecution Service. I do not earn "fat fees". I come from a modest background. I have family responsibilities. I have no private income and no large sums sitting in a bank account. I can survive only with the help of an understanding bank manager and extensive overdraft facilities. Most of the Bar are in a similar position.

In most cases I do not know what I shall be paid until after the event. If I have prosecuted in a substantial case, my clerk negotiates a fair fee with the CPS, after the case is ended. This process can take many months. If I defend in a moderate to very serious case, we discuss what we believe is a reasonable fee for the work done, and put in a bill accordingly. Whatever I claim, a member of staff of the court service will decide what I shall be paid. This can take months or even years. A barrister doing this kind of work has no idea what he or she will receive virtually until payment is made.

Under the Government's planned extension of "no win, no fee" arrangements for cases currently covered by Legal Aid, the individual practising barrister and the small high street firm of solicitors will find themselves in an impossible financial situation. This is because they will not be able to bear the burden of funding litigation and paying tax on fees they may never receive.

Members of the Bar and solicitors doing privately paid work will also be affected. Barristers often wait months and years for payment in these cases, but unlike most businesses, they cannot charge interest on outstanding fees.

The Government argues that the professions should be treated for tax purposes in the same way as other businesses. In recent years, the Bar has run its own programme of self-reform and modernisation, harnessing the efficiency savings of new technology and sharper management practice for the benefit of its clients. Changes such as the increased use of video-conferencing and management training — with its particular emphasis on customer service and time-efficiency, have been well-received.

In many ways the Bar is much more business-like than when I first joined the profession 25 years ago, but there remain essential differences. As a matter of law, barristers cannot sue for their fees and are, therefore, at a unique disadvantage compared with other businesses. And, unlike invoices which other businesses send out, the amount of money barristers actually receive is subject to independent assessment.

For those working in the legal aid field, in particular, payment for their work is often subject to even greater delay than that experienced by small businesses.

Small firms of solicitors, who already face big cash-flow problems, will be forced to demand upfront payments from someone wanting legal help. This may not hurt major businesses, but it may cause real difficulties for the individual man or woman on the street. Many at the Bar cannot pay tax in the way the Revenue is demanding. The delay in payment of barristers' fees is a scandal. Despite pronouncements about the determination to help small businesses and ensure prompt payment of bills, late payment by the Government continues.

No one wants to see the legal profession revert to being the preserve of the privileged few. The irony of these proposals, taken together with the introduction of student loans, is that a Labour Government will be responsible for making it very difficult for people without private money to become barristers. Already, the average young barrister is starting in practice with debts of more than £9,000 from funding the Bar Vocational Course. How will they be able to pay tax in advance of payment of fees?

We must persuade the Treasury and the Inland Revenue to think again.

● *The author chairs the Bar Council.*

Split over indemnity

OUTS

A DANGEROUS split is emerging within the solicitors' profession over how to tackle the crisis affecting the Solicitors' Indemnity Fund.

The large commercial firms have formed an alliance called the November Group to articulate their views, aiming to end the mutual insurance system so they can take out insurance on the open market. They argue that under any mutual scheme it is the firms with good claims records that end up subsidising the shoddy firms.

The smaller firms fear they would be unlikely to get a good deal on the open market and want the protection of a compulsory mutual fund subscribed to by the entire profession. What worries the Law Society is that the working party it put together to find a solution to the problem, led by John Appleby, a council member, has split along these lines. The majority wants a reformed SIF, so that it is kinder to the firms with good claims records. A minority, made up of the Freshfields and Hammond Suddards representatives, want to set up a so-called "approved insurer scheme" — under which firms are required to obtain insurance from a selection of "approved insurers" on the open market — to be investigated more thoroughly.



Lord Justice Brown: Israel trip

● *The Young Women Lawyers group is holding a meeting next week on how to win a training contract (with a law firm) or pupillage (in chambers). Open to all: Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, WC1, 6.30pm. Details: Jill Brown, 0171-797 7766.*

Legal aid

A GROUP of judges and lawyers led by Lord Justice Simon Brown, and including Mr Justice Lightman, have been to Israel, where they dedicated a residential block at the Neve Amiel Youth Village to the memory of Sam Stamler, QC, and Honor Stamler.

Funds have been raised by the Bench and Bar Committee of the United Jewish Israel Appeal. Mr Stamler was a former chairman of the committee as well as heading One Essex Court, the largest commercial set in the Temple. The committee now plans to raise money for a music-therapy programme in memory of Lord Taylor, late Lord Chief Justice, and his wife Irene.

● *Who says lawyers are lowbrow money-grabbing philistines? Next month the International Bar Association is staging a one-day conference for museum and art gallery lawyers. Most appropriately, the association has chosen Paris as the venue for the February 6 get-together.*

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To discuss any of the above appointments in detail, please contact Penny Tamdrup, Sarah King or Siman Eagan on 0171 404 6669 (evenings/weekends 0181 870 4364), or write to us, in complete confidence, at 44/45 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1JB. (Fax: 0171 404 8817).

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THE TIMES

JUSTICE awards

To celebrate its 40th anniversary, JUSTICE in association with THE TIMES is presenting two awards for:

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NOMINATION for CRIMINAL JUSTICE AWARD

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ADDRESS .....

POSTCODE .....

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POSTCODE ..... TEL/FAX .....

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For further information in complete confidence please contact Rebecca Errington or Stephen Leavy (qualified lawyers) on 0171 405 6062 (0171 537 9375 evenings/ weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4JH. Confidential Fax 0171 831 6394. This assignment is being handled on an exclusive basis and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to QD for consideration.

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PRACTICE | IN-HOUSE

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▶ Conveyancer (Hong Kong Experience) — Hong Kong
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▶ Commercial/Corporate NQ — WC2
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▶ Commercial Litigation (1 to 2 years pqe) — WC2
One of the leading London firms is seeking a commercial litigator with around 1 to 2 years experience. This position will provide scope to undertake not only IP matters but also some employment work. You should have experience in either discipline and been keen to develop your career in both of these fields. Contact Samantha Knowles. Ref: 1967

▶ Property Development — North West London
This highly successful partnership acts for nationally recognised residential property developers. There is now an opening for a property lawyer with 1 to 5 years experience to join the team handling site acquisition work. An outstanding salary package is offered and prospects for partnership are real. Contact Andre Field. Ref: 2042

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US MULTINATIONALS — EUROPE-WIDE
As we enter 1998, there appears to be no slack in the demand for in-house lawyers by US multinationals operating in the IT, Telecoms and High Tech sectors. We are handling assignments throughout Europe including: Dublin, Paris, Brussels, Amsterdam, Zurich, Warsaw, Vienna, Grenoble, Stuttgart, Tel-Aviv and Milan.

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▶ Commercial — London
This international retailer seeks a 1 to 2 year qualified commercial lawyer to join a small team. You will be familiar with drafting and negotiating a range of commercial agreements, as well as having exposure to EC competition law, IP, litigation and employment matters. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 3081

▶ General Banking — 5-10 years PQE
This leading US investment bank is looking for a high calibre senior banking lawyer to join a team of 3. You will be familiar with a broad range of investment banking and commercial products, have experience in cross border financial transactions and some securities law. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref: 3086

▶ Telecoms/Commercial — Berkshire
A lawyer of between 1 and 3 years experience in telecoms, IP, EC competition law, contracts and general commercial matters is required to join the legal team of one of the largest independent European telecommunications service providers. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 3044

▶ Derivatives/Prime Brokerage — 3-5 years PQE
This premiere US investment bank seeks a lawyer with derivatives experience who either already has prime brokerage experience or is looking to diversify from a pure derivative/ sales and trading role. Contact St. John Whittle. Ref: 3057

▶ Construction — London
This international firm of consulting engineers seeks a 1 to 3 year qualified lawyer with a sound knowledge of non-contentious construction matters to join a small team. Contact Rachael North. Ref: 2833

▶ Junior Banking/Derivatives Lawyer — NQ-2 years PQE
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Woolwich plc's current success has been built on first class financial products, an excellent corporate strategy and bright, committed people.

As part of the Woolwich's ongoing development strategy, the Legal Department seeks to recruit a senior lawyer to set up and manage an "in-house" legal support function within the Treasury Services department of the Woolwich.

The role will involve providing "hands on" input and direction to the Treasury Services business plan via the development and implementation of complementary legal and compliance policies and procedures in addition to upgrading the Treasury Services department's existing compliance function.

Responsibility will also be undertaken for the documentation associated with swaps, foreign exchange, FRAs and gilt stock lending, MTNs and similar transactions.

To be considered for this new and multi-faceted role, you will be a solicitor or barrister, at least 30 years of age and have had a minimum of 2PQE within both a major City practice and a London based Treasury department. Previous compliance experience within a major financial institution will be an advantage. You will be a self starter with a high level of personal motivation and confidence, coupled with superb interpersonal and networking skills and a wide strategic perspective.

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Valerie Grove cannot fault the many talents of the author of *McGregor on Damages*

The singing master of damages

ALAN WELLER



Harvey McGregor, QC: Shall we start lunch with a song? How about some Noël Coward?

Lunch with Harvey McGregor, QC, the exuberant bow-tied former Warden of New College Oxford, begins with his rendering of the Noël Coward song that starts "Love Came to Mrs Wentworth-Brewster" — a name Coward neatly rhymed with "goosed her". (Mr McGregor had recently performed it in an impromptu cabaret at the Wexford Festival.)

The eponymous author of *McGregor on Damages* is a man of parts, and while the Bar has honed one kind of performance, he still likes to play the piano, and also the fool (on stage) whenever possible.

The huge work, just out from Sweet & Maxwell at £200, is an essential reference in an age when Mrs Wentworth-Brewster would probably sue the sailors who goosed her, instead of saying, "They're just high-spirited, as all Italians are," as in the song.

> 'Like the US, we are suing more than we used to'

"The idea of damages," Mr McGregor says, "depends on a litigating society. We are following America . . . suing more than we used to. A growing field is medical negligence and expert witnesses, which leads to all sorts of problems for lawyers: more complicated than physical injury, where you can assess earnings loss."

He was a schoolboy mathematician ("like Denning"), but having gone to Oxford from the RAF — where he learnt Mandarin Chinese — on a history scholarship, he switched to law. "It was a leap in the dark but it turned out to be water off a duck's back," he said (I think he means he took to it like a duck to water.) "I have a logical mind, and a very good memory."

He was taught by Sir Zelman Cowen, later Governor-General of Australia. "Mr Cowen seems to think you might get a first," his tutor told him, adding: "I wouldn't take that too seriously if I were you." Mr McGregor, never in danger of taking anything too seriously, and a contemporary of Kenneth Tynan, carried on playing — "everything from Malvolio to an Ugly Sister" — but achieving his first and landing a professorship at Chicago even before taking his finals.

When he was about to take a doctorate at Harvard, he conceived "this crazy ambition to write a major textbook" as his thesis. Everything important was already covered — but his eye lit on the subject of restitution. Alas, the legal publishers Sweet & Maxwell had promised the subject to two young lawyers — now Lord Goff and Professor Gareth Jones.

Then one day he was asked to update *Mayne on Damages*, first published in 1856. He told them it would have to be entirely rewritten. Could it be called McGregor on Damages? Certainly not, they replied. "Nobody's ever heard of you." So the first edition (1961) — which took four years to write — was by "Mayne and McGregor"; ever since it has been "McGregor".

Few elements of the law are as bewildering to the public as damages: the idea of a monetary tariff attaching to pain and loss after an accident — especially when there is some contributory negligence or foolhardiness involved. We are agog when juries award vast damages for libel, so that as Mr McGregor puts it, "a ruined or blemished reputation gets much more damages than a ruined life".

Those days are over, Mr McGregor says, since the awards to Jeffrey Archer and Lord Aldington ("which poor Toby has never received"), Sonia Sutcliffe and Elton John. "But large damages for defamation were not a recent thing: in the 1930s when Prince Youssupoff sued MGM over a film suggesting that his wife, the princess, had been raped by Rasputin, he received £25,000, which would be more than a million today."

The days when judges would have to weigh up a widow's chances of remarrying have also gone. "Since 1971 the judge must not take into account the plaintiff's chances of remarrying, or indeed her actual remarriage, even if she has since married a millionaire."

We discussed the American pandering to victimhood, where people sue over the results of their own stupidity, such as the woman who scalded herself by carrying hot coffee in her lap in the car, and sued McDonald's. I cited Stephen Fry's view that all American judges should have a motto over their benches saying "Shit happens." ("in Latin," said Mr McGregor).

"We are moving in the American direction," he says, "but we are still under control."

He is much missed in Oxford, where the bachelor Warden was famed for his musical soirées. "I think I was regarded as the head of house who was nearest to the young and I took part in their plays and concerts." He revived his Malvolio in an undergraduate production of *Twelfth Night* and he sang in *Guys and Dolls*. Having discovered that there were other concert pianists manqués among the Wardens in Oxford — Sir Claus Moser of Wadham, Sir Patrick Neill of All Souls — he devised *Wardens in Concert*, a recital in the Sheldonian. "We played the Mozart concerto for three pianos and it was a wild success."

Recently, Mr McGregor was at the keyboard again with Moser and the great Fanny Waterman, giving a recital at the Garrick Club in memory of Lord Chief Justice Peter Taylor, an accomplished pianist himself.

At 71, Mr McGregor has made his home in Edinburgh, but at his chambers in Paper Buildings he is busier than ever, including recent work in Paris and Gibraltar. "One thing about being a lawyer," he says, "is having to be able to pick up any subject, anywhere."

A way in for British firms

Changes to Milan's stock market rules should pay big dividends for lawyers

Firms with a strong interest in Italy may, as a result of changes to the listing rules of the Milan Stock Exchange, find that the return on their investment has greatly increased.

The Milan Stock Exchange — or *Borsa*, as it is known in Italy — will this week promote major changes to its rules of entry for new companies wishing to list on the market.

It is likely to mean much more work for British law firms — such as Allen & Overy, Freshfields, Clifford Chance, Simmons & Simmons and smaller companies such as Radcliffes — that work in Italy's corporate sector. Milan's *Borsa* was floated in October 1997 and one of the first actions taken by its new administration was to overhaul existing rules of entry. This was to enable Milan to compete on equal terms with the other leading exchanges, notably those of London and New York. The Milan *Borsa* was handicapped by its listing rules and as a result (to the advantage of other stock exchanges) rejected applications by some of Italy's most important companies. Three years ago Gucci floated on the stock exchanges of New York and Amsterdam, having been refused a listing in Milan. Its Wall Street success started a trend that has been followed by others, such as Fila, the sportswear group. Other Italian fashion houses, including Armani, Versace, Trussardi and Ferre, indicated that they, too, proposed to obtain a listing abroad.

The Milan Stock Exchange was also set to miss out on another wave of flotations. A number of top Italian football clubs were preparing to obtain listings in London as the leading market in football stocks. By changing its rules, the *Borsa* is now confident of attracting candidates to list in the domestic market, to encourage those Italian companies that have floated elsewhere to consider a second listing in Milan and even to coax non-Italian companies to Milan as a venue for flotation.



Milan's *Borsa*: all set for a new look

The most important rule change is to abolish the regulation that obliged companies to show three years of consecutive profits. It was this rule that forced the Gucci exile and would have barred the path to flotation of any of the top Italian football clubs. Instead, a company wanting to attain a listing in Milan will need to show to the stock market that its commercial activities can generate profits. The president of the *Borsa*'s ruling body, Tommaso Padoa-Schioppa, has expressed his ambition for Milan to be one of the main stock markets after New York, London and Tokyo. He views success as being dependent on the organisation being able to compete in all areas, including rules of entry, generation of capital and economic stability. The chances of success received a boost recently when the International Monetary Fund released an upbeat assessment of the Italian economy. With its new listing rules and aided by relative economic stability, the Borsa aims to attract 100 new companies over the next three years.

Just as the British model for privatisation has been followed in Italy to the benefit of a number of British law firms, so the expansion of the *Borsa* is likely to draw on the expertise in securities law that can be offered by those British lawyers now working in the Italian market.

MICHAEL NATHANSON AND HELEN ABBOTT

● *The authors are a partner and assistant solicitor in Radcliffes' Italian group.*

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2 Years	26,000 - 29,000
3 Years	27,000 - 32,000
4 Years	29,000 - 34,000
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Holborn Firms	
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1 Year	28,000 - 30,000
2 Years	30,000 - 33,000
3 Years	34,000 - 38,000
4 Years	39,000 - 43,000
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CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY Our legal directory is available from Bibos. (01403 - 710 971)

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Top City law firm seeking tax qualifiers at all levels up to four years' pqe, including newly qualifieds and junior accountants with tax expertise. High proportion of self generating work and possibility of a secondment overseas. Ref: T30212

BANKING *To £40,000*
This leading City firm is doing excellent work in venture capital, MBO financing and secured and syndicated lending. Unusually for a City firm you will have excellent client contact from an early stage. Ideally, you will have acted for banks and corporate borrowers and have up to 3 years' pqe. Excellent prospects. Ref: T11852

LIBEL LAWYER *West Country To £Attractive*
Leading West Country firm seeking lawyer with libel experience to give pre-publication advice. Media team act for newspapers and publishers country wide, and the firm enjoys international client list. Experience in libel, contempt of court and court reporting necessary. Ref: T44133

CORPORATE *£75,000*
This City firm is a leader for its size (around 50 partners) enjoying a blue chip corporate client base. Excellent opportunities for corporate lawyers at all levels to join friendly, collegiate firm to undertake mainstream corporate and commercial finance work. Partnership prospects. Ref: T18596

EMPLOYMENT *£40,000*
Niche media firm in the City seeks employment lawyers for contentious and non-contentious work. Wide range of training will be given for newly qualifieds with employment experience during articles. Will consider lawyers up to 4 years' pqe. Ref: T46138

NON CONT CONSTRUCTION *To £65,000*
First rate opportunity for non-contentious construction specialist to join one of the City's premier construction practices. Domestic and international work of the highest quality and excellent partnership prospects make this a rare opportunity for a lawyer with 2-5 years' pqe. Ref: T22325

GENERAL LITIGATION *To £48,000*
Excellent opportunity for general litigator with real ambitions to join a medium sized City firm with first rate litigation reputation. Opportunity to get involved in insolvency related work also. Exciting prospect for lawyer with up to 4 years' pqe. Ref: T40846

PRIVATE CLIENT PARTNER *£Partnership*
Leading South East firm with strong position in private client and excellent reputation firm-wide, seeks private client partner for London and Kent role. Strong trusts and tax planning department which is central to the firm's core strategy. Instant partnership for existing partner who can demonstrate their worth. Ref: T36219

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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact William Cock, Kate Sutcliffe or Seamus Hoar (all qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-727 7009 or 0956 569203 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Quarry Dougall Recruitment, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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Applications are being handled exclusively by our retained consultants. For an information pack and details of how to apply call them on 0121 362 7087, 24 hours a day.

Closing date for completed applications is 4th February 1998. Previous applicants need not apply.

These positions will initially be made on the basis of a three year contract with the possibility of subsequent renewal.

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23 LONG LANE LONDON EC1A 9HL TEL: 0171-606 8844 (FAX: 0171-600 1793)

BANKING & FINANCE

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c£60,000 + benefits

This AAA rated and long established European Financial Institution seeks an experienced banking lawyer to assume responsibility for its global capital markets business. Individuals will be at least 3 yrs pqe and have sound knowledge of a broad range of debt instruments.

The ideal candidate will relish a commercial challenge and be adaptable as this developing role will be moulded by him/her. The existing team is down-to-earth and cohesive; positive attributes which the organisation is keen to maintain. Remuneration, long term prospects and security are outstanding.

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to £70,000

This pre-eminent international financial institution is one of the world's leading investment banking and securities firms. It has a reputation for creativity and prides itself on excellence.

The centralised legal department seeks a further member (3-6 yrs' pqe) with a broad understanding of the markets. The successful candidate will have a varied role supporting the bank's equity divisions. Encompassed in this role will be innovative structures such as tax-based financing with an equities element and equity-linked derivative products. An agile legal mind and dynamic approach is essential.

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£Excellent package

Our client is a leading international investment banking group with more than 5,000 employees located in financial centres across the world.

A position has arisen for a junior lawyer or transaction manager (min. 6 mths' expce) to work on the dealing floor. Transactional work includes OTC derivatives, exchange traded documentation and complex structured products. The role involves close liaison with business areas in Paris so good spoken French will be highly desirable. It would ideally suit an ISDA negotiator seeking greater responsibility and a more challenging product range.

Chambers Banking & Finance recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information or for career advice, please ring **Deborah Kirkman** or **Stuart Morton** on **0171 606 8844**. Confidentiality is assured.

States of Jersey
Assistant Law Draftsman
Law Draftsman's Office, States Greffe
Salary £60,000

A vacancy exists for a qualified lawyer to be appointed as Assistant Law Draftsman and join a small team of professional legislative draftsmen employed by the Government of the Island of Jersey.

Applicants, male or female, should be qualified as an Advocate, Barrister or Solicitor, with at least 10 years' experience, of which a significant period (of the order of 5 years) must have been spent in full-time legislative drafting.

Jersey is a self-governing Island with its own elected legislature (called 'the States of Jersey') of politically independent members. The Island's Government consists of Committees composed of elected members of the States supported by the Jersey Civil Service. All Committees have statutory authority to promote legislation, both principal and subordinate.

The Law Draftsman's Office, of which the Assistant Law Draftsmen are part, is responsible for drafting the whole range of legislation for the States of Jersey and every Committee of the States.

The appointment will be for a contract of 3 or 5 years' duration.

Application forms and a job description are available from Angela Rayson, Law Clerk, Law Draftsman's Office, States Greffe, Royal Square, St. Helier, Jersey, JE1 1DD, Channel Islands, telephone (01534) 502010.

Closing date: 6th February 1998

London Fire and Civil Defence Authority

Senior Legal Assistant
£24,840 - £28,068 pa inc.

The Corporate and Propriety Team of the London Fire and Civil Defence Authority's Legal Branch deals with contracts, competitive tendering and corporate compliance, including the provision of legal services to the Authority. The Team needs a Senior Litigation Assistant to join it.

Under the general direction of the Team Leader the successful applicant will manage a personal legal caseload primarily concerned with the law relating to contract, competitive tendering and corporate compliance so as to facilitate the efficiency of the Authority's front-line services; provide high level legal research, know-how assistance and support on contract and corporate law matters to colleagues; and assist in managing the provision of in-house or external legal services to the Authority.

We are looking for a qualified solicitor or barrister with at least two years post-qualification experience and up-to-date knowledge in these areas of law and practice or demonstrably comparable breadth and depth of legal knowledge, based on systematic legal study, and comparable and very substantial experience. The Team relies on up-to-date computing facilities and case management software and the successful applicant will have keyboard experience or the willingness to acquire the necessary skills quickly.

For further details and an application form please contact Mr B Lawrance, Dept S, Legal Branch, Room 611, Main Building, Fire Brigade HQ, Albert Embankment, London SE1 7SD or telephone 0171-587 4597 quoting ref. FB98/002. Closing date for the submission of completed application forms is 6 February 1998.

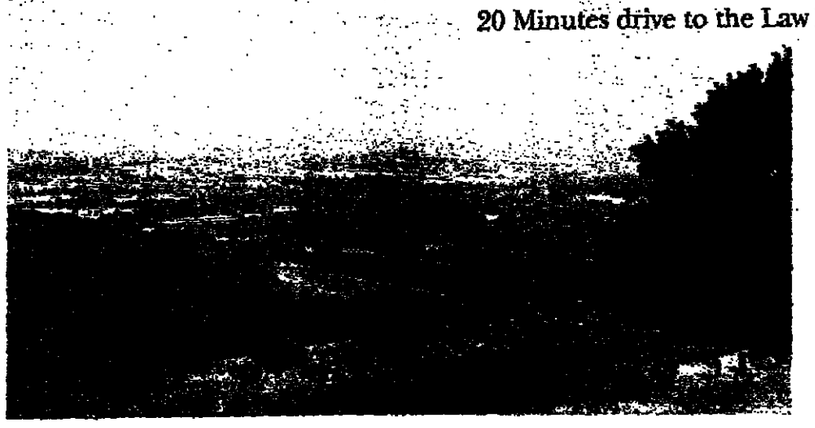
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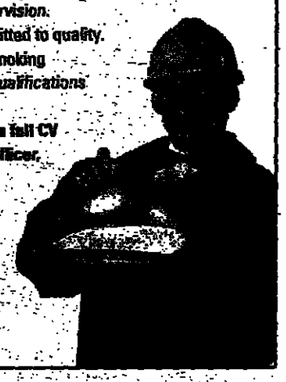
Responsibilities will involve:

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- generally, handling all aspects of a varied case load without supervision.

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Closing date for applications: 13th February 1998.



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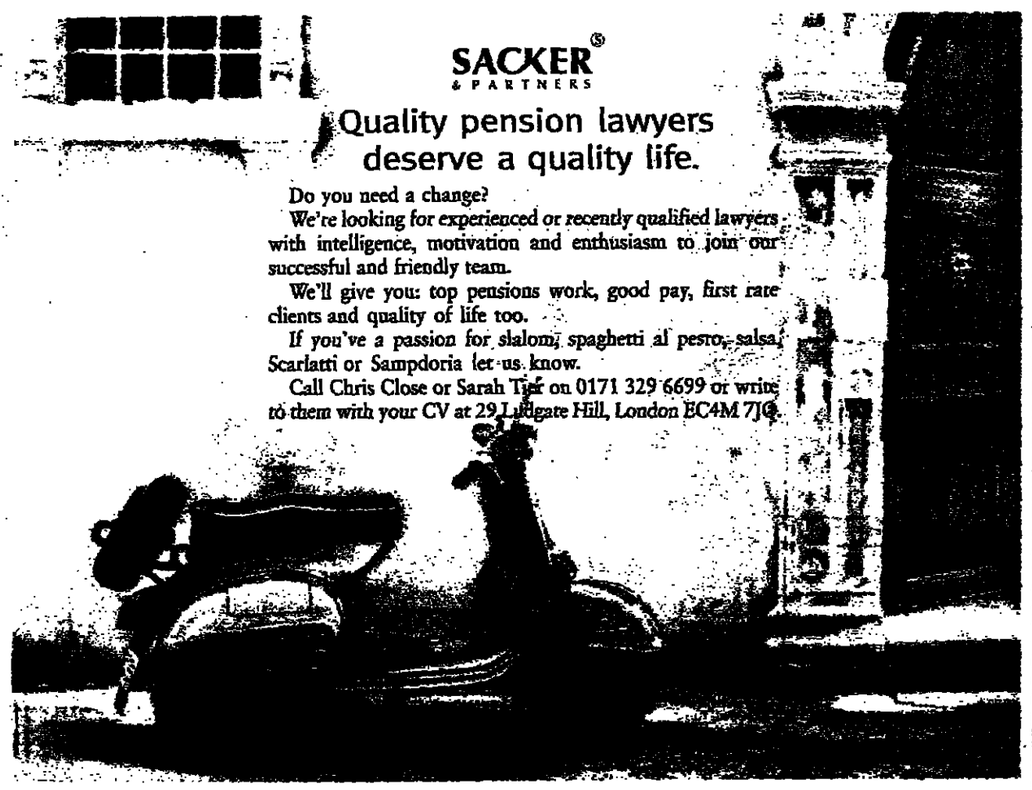
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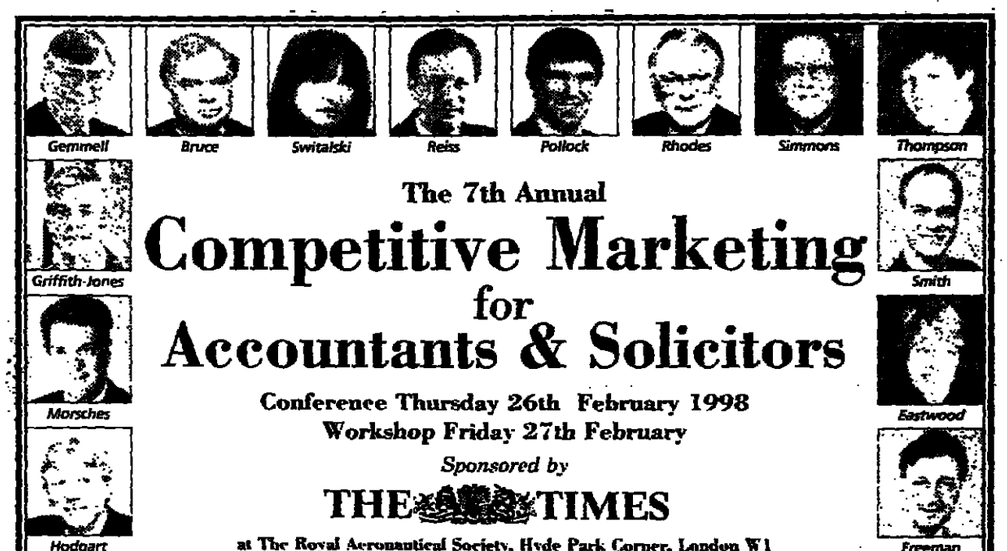
- Overseeing legal affairs of the company.
- Advising management on a wide range of international commercial legal issues.
- Handling complex contractual and commercial negotiations.
- Managing litigation.
- Involvement in acquisition, disposal and reorganisation agreements.
- Liaison with and management of external legal advisers.

The successful candidate is likely to be aged 30-35 and will possess the technical and legal ability, maturity and interpersonal skills to deal with a wide range of legal issues in the domestic and international fields. Individual attributes will include commercial judgement, resilience and a pro-active style. Candidates will have at least five years company and commercial post qualification experience gained in-house or with a major city law firm.

For the right person, this position represents a significant leap in responsibility and an opportunity to participate at a senior management level in a growing dynamic business.

Interested candidates should contact Chris Nelson, Director or Daniel Richards, Manager at Michael Page Legal, Page House, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LN, fax 0171 831 6662, or telephone them on 0171 831 2000.

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Conference Thursday 26th February 1998
Workshop Friday 27th February

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- Strategies for fees
- Client Relationship Marketing

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	John Griffith-Jones	*Advisor to the Board*	Denton Hall
	Andy Smith	*Business Development - Europe*	Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu
	Gill Switalski	*Corporate Services Director*	Camelot
	Michael Simmons	*Partner*	Finers
	Tony Reiss	*Marketing Consultant*	Ince & Co
	Robert Bruce	*Accountancy Correspondent*	The Times
	Andy Pollock	*Senior Partner*	Rees Pollock
	Paul Rhodes	*Director*	Rhodes Benson
	Nick Thompson	*Finance Director & Company Secretary*	Bonhams

The Workshop *Friday 27th February*

Alan Hodgart	*Director*	Hodgart Temporal
Fritz Morsches	*Marketing Director*	Steel Hector & Davis, Miami, USA
Mairi Eastwood	*Managing Director*	Eastwood Consulting
John Freeman	*Partner*	Manby & Steward

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The EIB, is the long-term financing institution of the European Union, and one of the largest multilateral lending institutions in the world. Its task is to contribute by means of its long-term loans towards the integration, balanced development and economic and social cohesion of the Member Countries.
The Bank is currently seeking for appointment to its Legal Directorate, at its headquarters in Luxembourg a (m/f)

Lawyer

The lawyer of English mother tongue will form part of a team in a challenging international and professional environment.

Duties: the successful candidate will: ☐ be responsible for legal operations subject to English law; ☐ draft and negotiate documentation for the Bank's operations in the EU and in other countries where the Bank provides financing; ☐ advise the lending departments of the Bank on legal structure and documentation for projects and structured financing operations; ☐ negotiate and liaise with external legal counsel and co-financiers; ☐ generally provide advice on English law matters and on general issues affecting credits, restructuring and post signature procedures.

Qualifications: candidates will: ☐ be members of a legal professional body in a country of the Common Law tradition; ☐ **have a minimum of three years' post-qualification experience in banking law and practice relating to structured finance operations;** experience in a Civil Law system and EC Law would be an asset; ☐ have the ability to handle complex finance documentation and have proven drafting and inter-personal skills; ☐ be able to work under pressure, demonstrate qualities of energy, imagination as well as sound judgement and sense of discipline. Sound knowledge of computing tools is also required.

Languages: in addition to perfect knowledge of English very good command of French is desirable. Knowledge of other languages would be an advantage.

The EIB offers attractive terms of employment and salary with a wide range of welfare benefits. Applications from women would be particularly welcome.

Applicants, who must be nationals of a Member Country of the European Union, are invited to send their curriculum vitae in English or French together with a letter and photograph, quoting the appropriate reference, to:

EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK, Recruitment Division, (Ref.: JUGS 9801)
L-2950 LUXEMBOURG. Fax: + 352 4379 2545.

Applications will be treated in the strictest confidence and will not be returned. General information on the EIB can be found on the Internet (http://www.eib.org).

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The Public Policy unit at Lovell White Durrant provides expert professional advice and representation on all aspects of government policy. In particular, the office identifies areas of proposed policy either at governmental, local government or regulatory level which may have an immediate impact on the business of the firm's clients; it assists in the preparation of responses to government consultation documents and advises on all aspects of supporting, opposing and amending legislation. The office prepares papers on government policy across a wide range of areas in order to give clients a succinct summary of the likely impact of these policies on their operations.

We seek a Public Policy Lawyer to manage the unit, initially to work with David Tench, the firm's public policy consultant.

The successful candidate will be a solicitor or barrister with good experience of the parliamentary process and the machinery of national and local government. This knowledge may have been acquired through practical experience or from an academic standpoint. The Public Policy Lawyer will be involved in research, drafting, meeting clients to discuss in detail the impact of government policy on their businesses, and in the presentation of cases to officials or politicians. This aspect of the work calls for close cooperation with both clients and partners in the firm.

Applications in the form of a CV should be sent to Alison Gallico, Director of Personnel, Lovell White Durrant, 65 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1A 2DY.

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An opportunity has arisen, through continued expansion, to appoint a **Legal Assistant** to join this successful team within Bovis Europe.

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You will be legally qualified with strong communication and team working skills.

If you would like to be considered for this senior position please send a full CV, including present salary details, to: **Iain Roden, Human Resource Manager, Bovis Construction Limited, Bovis House, Northolt Road, Harrow HA2 0EE, or via e-mail to Iain.Roden@europe.bovis.com**

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It is anticipated that the lawyer recruited will have 3-5 years corporate/commercial, upstream or projects experience gained from a recognised law firm. Equally, if not more important are the individuals personal qualities which will need to be team orientated and energetic to enable him/her to thrive in this demanding albeit highly rewarding business-orientated environment.

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96.8% of advertisements for lawyers are placed in ***The Times***.

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Source: MRS September 1997, NRS July 1996 - June 1997

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Rachael North is handling this assignment on an exclusive basis and for further information, in strict confidence, please contact her on the number below.

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RACING: CLUB IMPOSES TOUGHER PENALTIES FOR 'NON-TRIERS'

Trying times ahead for jockeys and trainers

By Chris McGrath

RIDERS and trainers face trying times ahead after the Jockey Club yesterday announced further measures to tighten the screw on "non-triers".

Tougher penalties will apply to those found in breach of Rule 151, which deals with this enduring menace, from the start of the turf Flat season in March. Of equal merit, however, is an innovation that will require an automatic stewards' inquiry every time a horse wins a handicap — or any rating-related race — without having previously made the frame.

The stewards will forward connections' observations to Portman Square, where tactics in earlier races will be analysed in the context of subsequent events. If the video evidence suggests that the horse's talents had been deliberately obscured to gain a favourable rating, the disciplinary committee will hold an inquiry.

As director of regulation, Malcolm Wallace has brought impressive vitality to the Jockey Club's efforts in the disciplinary field. He has improved the competence and vigilance of stewards, who found 42 runners in breach of Rule 151 last year. In 1996, there had been only 30 such cases. Future offenders, moreover, now face sterner punishment.

The present range of suspensions available are seven to 14 days in the case of jockeys giving their mounts culpably easy races and three to seven for those using a race for *"schooling or conditioning"*. The new minimums are ten days (with up to 21 available) for the first type of offence, and five (up to ten) for the second. Trainers' fines are also to be increased, from £1,400-£2,000 to £1,500-£3,000 if a horse has not been run on its merits and from £500-£1,000 to £750-£2,000 for schooling in public.

Particularly commendable is the focus on the horse itself. For too long, it has been possible for punished connections to find lucrative compensation by executing the rest of the "plot" unhindered. The recent introduction of a 30-day ban for horses not run on their merits has evidently been considered a qualified success. In future, they will be condemned to 40 days' inertia and, significantly, will not be eligible for valuable handicaps (classes A or B) without first being exposed to the handicapper in another race.

Rule 151 has also been expanded to place the onus on trainers to demonstrate their innocence, once a jockey has been found guilty. Consulted about the various revisions, the representatives of jockeys and trainers appear to have combined decorous approval *with some alarm at their* punitive nature.

"Yes, they are stiff penalties," Wallace said yesterday. "But at the end of the day, they are designed to act as a deterrent, in the interests both of the punter and of the majority of trainers and jockeys who do not try to obtain an unfair advantage."

Having overseen the gradual evolution of Rule 151 into a more effective policing tool, Wallace also announced similarly laudable amendments to another law that causes much agitation in betting shops. Rule 153, dealing with interference, looks more complex than ever — but is assuredly more sensitive, too.

The disciplinary committee was concerned that easy winners had to be disqualified, despite causing only minor interference, because their riders' behaviour fell into the category of irresponsible riding under Rule 153. As a result, there have been occasions when jockeys are artificially deemed to have been merely careless — or even for interference to have been accidental — so that the best horse could keep the race.

In cases of irresponsible riding, stewards will now ask themselves a new series of questions, designed to establish if the interference was unlikely to jeopardise the safety or placing of others. If so, they will punish only the jockey, and not the horse — or anyone who has backed it.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: Time Can Tell
(2.15 Lingfield Park)

Time Can Tell was impressive when winning by five lengths here last week, and should have little trouble in confirming the form with third-placed Night City on just 1lb worse terms.

NB: Nautical Warning
(1.15 Lingfield Park)

JULIAN HERBERT/ALLSPORT



Istabraq is a warm favourite to win the AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown on Sunday

Old opts for Haydock with Collier Bay

BRITAIN looks set to be without a runner in the AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Leopardstown on Sunday. Collier Bay was the sole horse from this country left in the Ir£50,000-added race at yesterday's acceptance stage, but his trainer, Jim Old, is keener to run the gelding in the Haydock Park Champion Hurdle Trial on Saturday.

Istabraq, the Smurfit Champion Hurdle favourite, heads the nine acceptors for Sunday. His trainer, Aidan O'Brien, has also left in Theatreworld, while Paddy Mullins could be doubly represented with Noble Thyne and The Ladbroke Hurdle runner-up, Notcomplainingbut.

Noel Meade has declared last year's winner, Cockney Lad, and Mouse Morris could be planning a step up in class for the unbeaten novice, His Song. Istabraq has been made 5-2 on for the race by Cashmans bookmakers. Other prices: 6-1 His Song, 7-1 Cockney Lad, 14-1 Theatreworld, 16-1 Noble Thyne, Notcomplainingbut, 66-1 Punting Pete. Commanche Court is 6-1 with a run.

Meade will also run Dardjini, the Arkle Trophy Chase favourite, in Sunday's Bailey's Arkle Chase, while fellow leading novice chaser Hill Society awaits a clash with Florida Pearl at Leopardstown in three weeks' time.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.15 Missed The Cut
1.45 Miss Skye
2.15 Night City
2.45 CASTLES BURNING (nap)
3.15 Scotland Bay
3.45 Pleasureland

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.45 TOP JEM.

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 . B West (4) 66

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. . G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. Timekeeper's speed rating.

GOING: STANDARD
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

SIS

1.15 HAMMERSMITH APPRENTICES HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,274: 7f) (10 runners)

107	(5)	22-41	MISSED THE CUT 3 (C) (R Hannon) R Hannon 9-12 (6ex)	R Smith (7)	64
102	(4)	33300-	DOVER SOUL 60 (R Marchant) P Makin 9-7	D Griffiths	60
103	(3)	6000-	NAUTICAL WARNING 78 (B Schmidt-Bodmer) J Nicolle 9-4	C Lowther	56
104	(10)	040-	LITTLE EMILY 45 (A Richards) C Britain 9-2	K Parkin (7)	55
105	(9)	0005-2	TECHNICIAN 15 (M Sinclair) M Jarvis 9-0	P Bradley (5)	56
106	(2)	30054-2	FIGAWIN 7 (B) (Clear Height Racing) S Dow 8-11	P Doe (5)	62
107	(6)	0004-34	PRINCE OXLEY 7 (B Pemach) G L Moore 8-11	R Brisland (7)	62
108	(7)	054-	DAHLIDYA 151 (General Sir Geoffrey Howlett) M Pelgrave 8-9	A McCarthy (5)	52
109	(8)	01000-	JATO DANCER 109 (D,F) (Norman Hill) J Arnold 8-8	Martin Dwyer	51
110	(1)	030-045	RIVER FRONTIER 7 (Dr I Sheridan) M Usher 7-13	A Nicholls (7)	65

BETTING: 7-2 Prince Oxley, 4-1 Missed The Cut, 9-2 Technician, 5-1 Nautical Warning, 8-1 Figawin, 10-1 Dover Soul, 12-1 Little Emily, 14-1 others.

1997: RAWI 9-8 Angela Gallimore (4-1) Miss G Kelloway 11 ran

FORM FOCUS: Missed The Cut beat Phantom Ring 3¼l in 7-runner maiden auction stakes at Lingfield (5f, standard). Dover Soul 17l 12th of 13 to Ok Babe in selling stakes at Wolverhampton (6f, fibresand). Nautical Warning 8¾l 9th of 18 to Five Of Spades in handicap at Nottingham (6f 15yd, good). Little Emily 15l 10th of 15 to Wolfhunt in maiden stakes at Wolverhampton (6f, fibresand). Technician 3¼l 2nd of 9 to Dancing Rio in handicap at Southwell (1m, fibresand). Figawin 6l 2nd of 8 to Recognition in selling stakes at Lingfield (7f, equitrack) with River Frontier (7lb better off) 12l 5th. Prince Oxley 3¼l 4th of 5 to Diamond Drift in handicap at Lingfield (1m, equitrack). Dahlidya 11l 4th of 8 to First Dance in selling stakes at Goodwood (6f, good to firm). Jato Dancer 11l 9th of 16 to Lauren's Lad in handicap at Lingfield (7f, firm).

MISSED THE CUT, a winner here on Saturday, can follow up.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: 1:45 Rockette, Uther Pendragon.

1.45 VAUXHALL SELLING STAKES (3-Y-O: £1,881: 1m) (9 runners)

201	(7)	0-0	SUPER IMPOSE 11 (E) (Mrs V Brampton) John Berry 8-11	M Fenton	–
202	(5)	08-0	UTHER PENDRAGON 14 (B) (Mrs G Blackwell) J Bennett 8-11	Dane O'Neill	–
203	(1)	12506-4	BERMUDA TRIANGLE 18 (F) (M Haynes) M Haynes 8-6	M Connolly (7)	72
204	(6)		EASY VIRTUE (A Moore) G L Moore 8-6	Candy Morris	–
205	(8)	050-	FIRST IDEA 150 (Mrs A Upcott) S Dow 8-6	P Doe (7)	59
206	(3)	0000-	MERCH RHYD-Y-GRUG 32 (Morgan Evans) D Williams 8-6	J Lowe	50
207	(2)	500360-	MISS SKYE 33 (E Fenemor) T Naughton 8-6	T Sprake	59
208	(4)	00000-	ROCKETTE 125 (V) (Ms A Cully) P Mooney 8-6	C Lowther (3)	70
209	(9)	0	WINTER RIVAL 12 (C Parnell) G L Moore 8-6	A Clark	–

BETTING: 3-1 Miss Skye, 7-2 Bermuda Triangle, 9-2 Winter Rival, 7-1 First Idea, 8-1 Easy Virtue, 10-1 Super Impose, Rockette, 14-1 others.

1997: AS-IS 8-11 J Weaver (3-1) M Johnston 5 ran

FORM FOCUS: Super Impose 21l 7th of 9 to She's A Gem in selling stakes at Southwell (7f, fibresand). Bermuda Triangle 11l 4th of 11 to Impulsive Decision in claiming stakes at Lingfield (1m, equitrack). First Idea 15l 12th of 14 to Rosewood Lady in selling stakes at Windsor (5f 217yd, good to firm). Miss Skye 29l last of 15 to Pity's Addition in fillies selling stakes at Southwell (7f, fibresand). Winter Rival 33l last of 10 to Snow And Ice in maiden stakes at Lingfield (1m, equitrack).

MISS SKYE failed to act on the track at Southwell last time and will be hard to beat

2.15 WESTMINSTER CLAIMING STAKES (£2,712: 1m 4f) (4 runners)

301	(4)	0101-33	NIGHT CITY 7 (BF,CD,S) (N Shields) K Burke 7-9-7	D Sweeney (3)	80
302	(3)	005-421	TIME CAN TELL 7 (C,D) (Sackville House Racing) J W Payne 4-8-13	S Drowne	78
303	(2)	0065-55	CHINGACHGOOK 3 (B Williams & B Lawrence) S Dow 4-8-9	P Doe (7)	76
304	(1)	5-	JANDAL 221 (A Moore) G L Moore 4-8-7	Candy Morris	56+

BETTING: 5-4 Night City, 11-8 Time Can Tell, 11-2 Chingachgook, 12-1 Jandal.

1997: PERSIAN CONQUEST 5-9-3 J Weaver (13-8) R Ingram 6 ran

FORM FOCUS: Time Can Tell beat English Invader 5l in 5-runner claimer at Lingfield (1m 5f, equitrack) with Night City (1lb better off) 6¾l 3rd. Chingachgook 15l 6th of 17 to Myosotis in handicap at Lingfield (1m 4f, standard). Jandal 15l 5th of 8 to Haltarra in maiden at Sandown (1m 2f, good).

TIME CAN TELL is hard to oppose after last week's comfortable success

2.45 ALBERT HANDICAP (£3,453: 1m 2f) (8 runners)

401	(7)	0104-	THREADNEEDLE 38 (F) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-10	Dane O'Neill	76
402	(2)	001106-	SMART BOY 41 (CD,F) (H R H Sultan Ahmad Shah) P Cole 4-9-8	C Rutter	72
403	(6)	13202-0	TOP JEM 13 (D,F,S) (J Malpas) M Ryan 4-9-8	P McCabe (3)	79
404	(1)	002321-	CLASSIC FIND 29 (CD,F) (Classic Bloodstock Plc) Pat Mitchell 5-9-6	M Fenton	79
405	(3)	1430-41	SEA DANZIG 7 (CD,F) (P Cook) J Bridger 5-9-3	R Studholme (7)	83
406	(5)	104180-	CASTLES BURNING 63 (6F,CD,F) (R Cyzer) C Cyzer 4-8-2	C Lowther (3)	80
407	(4)	66033-1	BILLADDIE 12 (CD) (R Garr) R Flower 5-8-4	A McCarthy (7)	70
408	(8)	4000-50	PROUD MONK 8 (S) (S Edwards) M R Bosley 5-8-1	G Bardwell	82

BETTING: 7-2 Classic Find, 4-1 Sea Danzig, 8-2 Smart Boy, 5-1 Threadneedle, Billaddie, 8-1 Castles Burning, 10-1 Top Jem, 20-1 Proud Monk.

1997: QUIET ARCH 4-7-12 J Bramhill (4-1 fav) W Muir 10 ran

FORM FOCUS: Threadneedle 9l 4th of 10 to Democrat in handicap at Wolverhampton (1m 1f, fibresand). Smart Boy 20l 6th of 14 to White Plains in amateur handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, equitrack) with Sea Danzig (3lb better off) 33l 11th. Top Jem 18l 7th of 10 to Swan Hunter in handicap at Wolverhampton (1m 4f, fibresand). Classic Find beat Conkronster 1¼l in 14-runner handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, equitrack). Sea Danzig beat Quiet Arch 3¼l in 5-runner handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, equitrack). Castles Burning 17l 15th of 17 to Royal Roulette in handicap at Lingfield (1m 4f, equitrack). Billaddie beat Four Of Spades 1¼l in 7-runner handicap at Lingfield (1m 2f, equitrack).

SEA DANZIG is sure to make a bold bid from the front

3.15 CHELSEA HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,180: 6f) (7 runners)

501	(5)	01-4	ROCKSWAIN 17 (M Wickens) P Haslam 9-7	L Charnock	63
502	(1)	044-1	SCOTLAND BAY 10 (C) (J Shannon) R Hannon 9-7	Dane O'Neill	62
503	(2)	0002-25	RED PEPPER 3 (Rosefield UK Ltd) P Howling 9-7	S Whitworth	78
504	(7)	65540-4	DIXIE CROSSROADS 7 (E Dawson) S Dow 8-9	P Doe (7)	62
505	(6)	008-	TAUREAN 127 (Mrs L Graham) N Graham 8-8	A Clark	59
506	(3)	000-	HIGHLAND LORD 47 (B) (P Fetherston-Godley) M Fetherston-Godley 8-1	F Norton	60
507	(4)	54000-6	PINUP 10 (Wessex House Racing) C Dwyer 7-13	D R McCabe	65

BETTING: 6-4 Scotland Bay, 9-4 Rockswain, 9-2 Red Pepper, 10-1 Dixie Crossroads, Pinup, 20-1 Taurean, 25-1 Highland Lord.

1997: COUNTLESS TIMES 9-12 J Wilkinson (3-1 fav) W Muir 9 ran

FORM FOCUS: Rockswain 6l 4th of 6 to Tangerine Flyer in handicap at Lingfield (5f, equitrack); previously beat Super Geal 2¼l in 12-runner selling stakes at Wolverhampton (5f, fibresand) Scotland Bay beat Hevergolf Princess 2l in 7-runner fillies handicap at Lingfield (7f, equitrack) with Pinup (11lb better off) 11l 6th. Red Pepper 8¼l 5th of 7 to Missed The Cut in maiden auction stakes at Lingfield (6f, standard); previously ¾l 2nd of 7 to Imbackagain in handicap at Southwell (6f, fibresand). Dixie Crossroads 11l 4th of 8 to Recognition in selling stakes at Lingfield (7f, equitrack). Taurean 22l 16th of 17 to Deterrent in maiden stakes at Nottingham (6l 15yd, good to firm). Highland Lord 13l 7th of 9 to Batchworth Belle in maiden auction stakes at Lingfield (6f, equitrack).

PINUP has been disappointing of late, but should appreciate this shorter trip

3.45 TOWER HANDICAP (£3,436: 2m) (8 runners)

601	(3)	36254-2	GUEST ALLIANCE 10 (CD) (Ballard (1834) Ltd) G L Moore 8-10-0	A Clark	72
602	(2)	50/660-	PLEASURELAND 66J (Mrs S McGarvie) R Curtis 5-9-8	R Hughes	58
603	(1)	/52/0-3	DISTANT STORM 10 (B,F) (D Driscoll) B Llewellyn 5-9-1	A McCarthy (7)	83
604	(5)	/32206-	PHILOSOPHIC 96 (Gallagher Equine Ltd) Mrs L Jewell 4-8-7	Dane O'Neill	65
605	(6)	0036-04	BROUGHTONS FORMULA 5 (B,CD,F,G) W Musson 8-8-7	D Holland	66
606	(8)	06000-1	MYOSOTIS 3 (B,C) (Red Lion Partnership) P Hiatt 4-8-3 (5ex)	S Righton (7)	71
607	(7)	000-330	ROYAL CIRCUS 3 (C,F,S) (P Hiatt) P Hiatt 9-7-11	J Bramhill	70
608	(4)	0255-04	DRAMA KING 6 (B) (Mrs V Guy) B Llewellyn 6-7-10	N Carlisle	62

BETTING: 7-2 Guest Alliance, 4-1 Myosotis, 9-2 Broughtons Formula, 5-1 Distant Storm, 13-2 Drama King, 8-1 Royal Circus, 10-1 Philosophic, 12-1 Pleasureland.

1997: BROUGHTONS FORMULA 7-8-1 D R McCabe (10-1) W Musson 7 ran

FORM FOCUS: Guest Alliance 19¼l 2nd of 7 to King Of Sparta in amateur handicap at Lingfield (2m, equitrack) with Royal Circus (9lb better off) 11l 3rd. Pleasureland beaten a distance 8th of 10 to Bridle's Pride in maiden handicap at Chepstow (2m 2f, good to soft). Distant Storm 3l 3rd of 6 to Shakiyr in handicap at Wolverhampton (2m 46yd, fibresand). Philosophic beaten a distance last of 6 to Jazz Track in handicap at Catterick (1m 7f 177yd, soft). Broughtons Formula 11l 4th of 14 to Sheriff in handicap at Lingfield (2m, equitrack). Myosotis beat Don't Drop Bombs 2½l in 17-runner amateur handicap at Lingfield (1m 4f, standard) with Royal Circus (3lb better off) 19l 8th. Drama King 2¼l 4th of 10 to Peloskin in handicap at Wolverhampton (1m 6f 166yd, fibresand).

BROUGHTONS FORMULA, last year's winner, is well treated on his best form

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Lord Huntingdon	38	198	19.2	R Studholme	3	10	30.0
P Haslam	19	102	18.6	D Holland	39	188	20.7
P Mooney	4	24	16.7	C Lowther	7	43	16.3
C Britain	29	181	16.0	S Whitworth	41	308	13.3
N Graham	7	50	14.0	D Griffiths	7	55	12.7
R Hannon	45	323	13.9	A Clark	65	521	12.5
G L Moore	76	564	13.5	D Sweeney	9	75	12.0

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Fontwell Park

Going: soft

1.15 (2m 2f 110yd hdle) 1, Ganpati (C Llewellyn, 30-100 (av); 2, Kim's Rose (20-1); 3, Cinnamon Club (10-1) 12 ran 7l, 22l N Twiston-Davies. Tote: £1.10, £1.10, £2.40, £1.10 DF £7.60. Tno. £17.30. CSF: £12.43

1.45 (3m 2f 110yd chl) 1, Kilmington (P Hide, 3-11; 2, Ferrytwo Dee (25-1), 3, Dunlir (33-1) Perryman 7-4 fav 10 ran NR The Proms Dest, 30l J Gifford Tote £3.60, £1.10, £2.40, £7.70 DF: £25.70. Tno: £172.40 CSF £65.70

2.15 (2m 6l 110yd hdle) 1, Bright Flame (L Aspell, 20-1), 2, Brackenheath (2-1 fav), 3, Paddy's Storm (3-1) 11 ran NR Sarawood 10l, dist. Miss S Edwards. Tote: £47.60, £12.60, £1.10, £1.70. DF: £58.70. Tno: £92.70. CSF £58.39

2.45 (2m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Malwood Castle (A Thornton, 9-2), 2, Brogeen Lady (3-1), 3, Professor Strong (16-1). Take The Buckskin 5-2 fav 8 ran 1¼l, 7l R Alner Tote: £5.20, £1.60, £1.10, £4.10. DF: £10.40 CSF: £18.23 Tncast. £184.17

3.15 (2m 6l 110yd hdle) 1, Outstayquay (N Williamson, 9-2); 2, Spring Grass (7-1); 3, Radley Wood (7-2). None Stirred 11-8 fav 8 ran Dist, 3l J Mullins. Tote: £5.40; £1.90, £2.10, £1.10 DF: £24.30 CSF £34.27. Tncast: £114.24

3.45 (2m 3l ch) 1, Calling Wild (T J Murphy, 3-1 fav); 2, Logical Step (4-1); 3, Bay Lough (5-1), 11 ran, 6l, 10l. P Nicholls. Tote: £3.20, £1.40, £1.60, £1.90. DF: £7.80 Tno: £10.80 CSF: £9.98

4.15 (2m 2f flat) 1, Commanche Hero (Y Azzpuru, 8-1), 2, Sweetlissajane (33-1), 3, Maidstone Monarch (25-1) Billy Moccashine 5-2 fav, 17 ran NR: Brown Melody 3l, 6l R Dickin. Tote, £6.50: £2.60, £7.80, £5.30 DF £225.20. CSF: £250.45.

Placepot: £27.50. Quadpot: £6.80.

Southwell

Going: standard

12.30 (1m) 1, Shontaine (D Holland, 7-2), 2, Chaluz (11-8 fav); 3, Genuine John (7-1). 11 ran 1¼l, 5l, M Johnston. Tote £5.40, £1.60, £1.10, £2.40 DF £2.90 Tno: £5.60 CSF: £7.93 Tncast: £31.95

1.00 (1m) 1, Godmersham Park (G Parkin, 5-2 jt-fav), 2, Principal Boy (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Gabisesa (13-2) 10 ran 1¼l, nk. P Felgate Tote: £3.50, £1.60, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £4.00 Tno: £21.90 CSF: £8.34 Tricast: £36.58

1.30 (1m 4f) 1, Awafeh (Emily Joyce, 20-1); 2, Zest (5-1), 3, Silanika (11-8 fav), 10 ran, 4l, 8l, S Mellor. Tote: £25.90; £4.40, £1.10, £1.80 DF: £25.30. Tno: £133.90 CSF: £107.32. Tricast: £210.73

2.00 (7f) 1, Rock Island Line (P Roberts, 14-1), 2, Mutahadeth (7-4 fav), 3, Zalomo (5-2) 12 ran NR Cairn Chu Nk, ¾l J Berry Tote £16.60 £3.20, £1.40, £1.40 DF £57.50 Tno, £42.70 CSF £38.02

2.30 (5f) 1, Broadstairs Beauty (R Winston 9-4 fav) 2, Double Oscar (11-4) 3 First Mate (8-1) 9 ran NR Lord Sky 1-2, 2¼l D Shaw Tote £2.90, £1.40 £1.10, £2.20 DF £7.30 CSF £8.18 Tricast £39.33

3.00 (1m 3f) 1, The Butterwick Kid (R Winston, 5-1), 2, African-Pard (6-1), 3, Squire's Occasion (20-1; Brocjune Line 4-1 fav 12 ran Hd, nk. R Fahey Tote, £4.40: £1.30, £2.00, £10.80 DF: £29.10 Tno £372.20 CSF: £45.24. Tricast £693.93

3.30 (1m 4f) 1, Pickens (Kim Tinkler, 4-6 fav); 2, Flotilla (7-1), 3, Evezio Rufo (13-2) 8 ran 4l, nk. E Lynch. Tote: £1.60; £1.10, £1.50, £1.20 DF £5.00 CSF £6.57

4.00 (1m 4f) 1, Misty Rain (S Righton, 6-1) 2, Toulston Lady (7-2); 3, Sheelin (5-2 fav) 10 ran Nk, 5l J Spearing Tote £5.60: £1.30, £1.30, £1.40 DF: £13.60 Tno £23.70 CSF £27.06 Tricast £61.86

Jackpot: not won (pool of £16,837.74 carried forward to Lingfield Park today).

Placepot: £18.40. Quadpot: £18.20.

McCoy slips up

TONY McCOY suffered a rare reverse when falling off Nazzaro two strides from the winning line in the Fontwell Handicap Chase yesterday. McCoy, who looked held in second, said: "I was throwing everything at my horse but he jinked near the line and I came off." The race was won by Malwood Castle.

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THE TIMES

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Feb 17th:	Manchester and the North West	June 30th:	Bristol and the South West
May 26th:	Birmingham and the Midlands	Sept/Oct:	Australia and New Zealand

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CRICKET

Headley setting his sights on frustrating Lara

FROM ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT, IN JAMAICA

NO BOWLER likes to be pigeon-holed and Dean Headley bridles visibly at mention of his reputation for dismissing left-handers. However, as West Indies prepare to name a Test team in which at least three of the top six will bat left-handed, Headley can afford to take such talk as a compliment.

Headley has played only three Tests, but no longer represents youth. He will be 28 next Tuesday, two days before the series begins, and, in the absence of the injured Darren Gough, England will look increasingly to him for wickets with the new ball.

He could hardly have made a better start. Against Jamaica, whose top six contained five left-handers, he bowled a consistent line at decent pace and with ever-improving rhythm. His startling match figures of nine for 40 were inflated by the shameful state of the pitch, but he was much the most menacing bowler in an abbreviated game.

This is an emotional time for Headley, with so much attention focused on his Jamaican heritage, and he is cautious of public reaction to his background. "There will always be those who want to have a go," he said. "Someone shouted to me: 'Headley, you're a white man.' But most of that is done with humour out here."

Yet the subject of left-handers brings a shake of the cropped head and a scratch of the gold-studded left ear. "People do keep on about this," he said wearily. "The job is about more than bowling at left-handers and, until the last year, I probably hadn't come up against too many. But I do seem to be reasonably effective against them and it's something that has stuck."



Headley: family ties

Headley should not fret about this, but the West Indies might. A year ago, Brian Lara was efficiently disarmed by the disciplined line of Glenn McGrath, of Australia, and, if Headley can do the same, he will make the greatest possible contribution to deciding this series. "Lara is their key player," he agreed, "and I shall step it up to try and make sure he doesn't succeed."

One area in which Headley erred over the weekend was in repeated no-balling and, in the next two days of practice, England must work to correct his over-stepping — and the more baffling transgressions of Phil Tufnell — for it is an unacceptable extravagance at this level. The same could be said of some of the appealing, from both teams, at Jarrett Park.

Jimmy Adams, shrieking at the umpire from mid-off, was the main Jamaican culprit and the England bowlers and fielders performed histrionically in the heat of Sunday. A Test match referee would, rightly, have been unamused.

Adams, once the most consistent player in the world, is one of those waiting anxiously on the outcome of the West Indies' selection meeting scheduled for today. Despite much talk of essential batting changes, after the 3-0 humiliation in Pakistan, his return may be the extent of the reshuffle.

The bowling will be led, as usual, by Walsh and Ambrose, while Ian Bishop took timely wickets for Trinidad this weekend and should survive under his island captain, Lara.

If there is a new face, it could be a specialist spin bowler, Winston Reid, the Barbados left-armer, who bowled well in Kingston last week and took nine wickets against the Leeward Islands at the weekend.

Maddy continues to earn A grades on tour

DARREN MADDY continued to show the form and style that has been the highlight of the England A tour on the opening day of the three-day match against a Colts XI in Colombo.

The Leicestershire opener followed his double century against Kenya on the first leg of the tour with 101, including seven fours and a six, as England reached 373 for nine at the close.

After subsiding meekly against the Sri Lankan spinners in the defeat by a President's XI at the weekend, England reaped the benefits of adopting a more aggressive approach.

"I tried to remain as positive as I could and tried to get on top of the spinners," Maddy said. "It's important not to let them bowl to you because, if you just hang in there, now and then you will get one that turns and bounces that little bit more and you're in trouble."

Steve James, the vice-captain, scored a determined 66 and Ashley Giles and James Ormond produced a series of flamboyant late-order strokes to ensure that England reached a challenging total.

The innings began badly for England after the Colts XI had won the toss. Nick Knight, the captain, mistiming a pull to give a comfortable catch behind in the fifth over. However, that brought James and Maddy together for a partnership of 95 in 22 overs.

The stand was broken when James was given out stumped and when Maddy was run out soon after that, it prompted a collapse that was only halted when Giles and Ormond came together in an aggressive stand of 46.



BARRY GREENWOOD

McCloy, of Ireland, weighs up his options during a surprise doubles win

Glasson calms rink fears

BY DAVID RHYS JONES

ALTHOUGH Willy Russell's *Blood Brothers* is packing them in at the Charter Theatre, next to the Guild Hall Arena, Preston, where the Saga world indoor bowls championships got under way yesterday, there was no love lost on the portable rink, where competition was intense.

The World Bowls Tour is responsible for this event for the first time, so there was interest in what changes might have been made now that the sport's leading players have more influence.

The running order has been changed, so that the pairs will be completed before the singles start on Friday, but otherwise the programme is pretty much as before.

The Professional Bowlers' Association (PBA) has made known its concern about the rink, on which a new carpet has been laid. It has proved to be tricky in practice and, fearing that the standard of play might disappoint television viewers, players want any problems diagnosed and resolved before the cameras arrive. The usual pre-match tests have also proved to be controversial, with several sets of bowls failing to meet the requirements, in terms of bias.

No fewer than three of Steve Glasson's sets failed to pass muster, so, in a rare example of trans-Tasman co-operation, the 28-year-old Australian borrowed four bowls from Michael Galloway, a New Zealander, and demonstrated that it's not the bowls that matter, but the player who delivers them as he partnered Mark McMahon to an impressive straight-sets victory over Alan Springell and Gary Grace, the English champions. The ease with which the winners drew to the jack suggested that there cannot be too much wrong with the rink.

The first real shock came when Wynne Richards and Greg Harlow, of England, the No 5 seeds, were defeated by the Irish qualifiers, Colin Hogg and Gary McCloy. "If I go on playing like that, I think I'll give up," Richards said. "Colin outbowled me and put Greg under too much pressure."

Richard Corsie, praised Graham Robertson, his lead, after the two Scots had beaten Jeremy Henry and Neil Booth, of Ireland.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Goodway returns in Wigan reunion

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

THE old boys' reunion at Wigan gathered momentum yesterday with the appointments of Andy Goodway, the Great Britain coach, as assistant coach to John Monie and of Billy McGinty as part-time coach of the Academy team.

With Denis Betts back on the playing staff and Phil Clarke installed as chief executive, the clock has been turned back at Central Park — not that sentiment has played any part in the bookmakers' decision to make Wigan the runaway favourites for the Super League, which starts in April. Wigan's recruitment during the winter has been impressive and the addition of Goodway, who is a third of the way through a part-time, 18-month contract to coach Great Britain, is a further sign of reawakened ambition at the club. Monie, in his second spell there, asked Goodway, who coached Oldham Bears and Paris Saint-Germain last season, to apply for the job.

It had surprised Monie that Goodway, who played for Wigan for seven years, had not secured a head coaching position. From Goodway's perspective, the chance to work alongside someone of Monie's calibre can only help his career.

"I'm sure we can work well together because I've always admired John as a coach," he said. "People are expecting a lot of Wigan this time and the prospects are good, but we have to be realistic. Bradford, St Helens and Leeds have worked hard to catch up. The going is getting tougher, so we'll have to set new standards."

The chance, too, to work daily at Wigan with Andy Farrell, the great Britain captain, and others will be invaluable for Goodway, who is still no nearer to discovering the Britain team's autumn programme. A triangular tournament involving Australia and New Zealand in November, with the World Cup postponed until 1999, is the favourite option.

Hull Sharks completed the signing of Glen Tomlinson, from Bradford Bulls, after having to give up on another Australian scrum half, Craig Kimmorley, who was refused a work permit.

RUGBY UNION

Sella ready to retire at end of season

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

PHILIPPE SELLA, the world's most-capped player, will close his illustrious career at Twickenham on May 23. He is due to play for a World XV in the third Sanyo Cup match against the English club champions, although, should Saracens win the Allied Dunbar Premiership, Sella will play for his club against the invitation side.

Sella, 35, agreed a one-year contract with Saracens in February 1996, with an option for a further year, which he duly took up. He was the second significant signing to be made by the newly-enriched North London club, six weeks after Michael Lynagh agreed terms, and it would be no surprise were Lynagh, the former Australia fly half, to follow him into retirement at the end of this season.

Sella made 111 appearances for France from 1982-95 before deciding that he could combine his burgeoning business interests (he runs a communications company) with club rugby in London. He, Lynagh and Francois Pienaar gave Saracens a huge reservoir of experience upon which to draw, which helped the club to survive in the first division during 1996-97 and this season to prosper; they now lie second in the first division table, behind Newcastle on points difference.

Although Rob Andrew, the director of rugby at Newcastle, has called for an extension to the season — after his club's game with Bath on Sunday had been wiped out by the weather — most clubs expect to rearrange games within the existing schedule.

However, that postponement also cost Jeremy Guscott his comeback match, after six months' absence. "It would have been nice to get a game under my belt, but now I have to look forward to the Richmond game [in the Tetley's Bitter Cup] this Saturday," the England and British Isles centre said.

"If I get back and play well, there's no reason why I shouldn't play for England in Paris [on February 7], but that's not in my hands. My aim is to enjoy what I do and, if things fall into place for France, that's good."

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 106 Boston 96, Chicago 106 Houston 100; San Antonio 99 Milwaukee 92 (OT), Phoenix 96 Miami 87, Portland 94 Denver 82
BUDWEISER LEAGUE: London Towers 65 Kent Kite Eagles 66, Chester Jets 69 Birmingham Bullets 106
NATIONAL LEAGUE. Men: First division: Bristol 76 Guildford 62

BOWLS

PRESTON: Saga world indoor championship. First round: M McMahon and S Glasson (Aus) bt A Springell and G Grace (Eng) 15-11, 7-12, 21-7; C Hogg and G McCloy (Ire) bt W Richards and S Harlow (Eng) 4-7, 21-7, 7-2; G Robertson and R Corsie (Sco) bt N Booth and J Henry (Ire) 9-7, 7-5, 5-7, 7-4, 7-0

CRICKET

Tour match
Sri Lanka Colts XI v England A

COLOMBO: First day of three; Sri Lanka Colts XI won toss; England A have scored 373 for nine (Maddy 101, Cork 50 not out) against Sri Lanka Colts

ENGLAND A: First innings

S [illegible] c [illegible] b Rajith	66
[illegible] c Fernando b Suranga Peiris	4
[illegible]	101
[illegible] Fernando b Rajith	15
[illegible] c Kaluperuma b Suranga Peiris	33
[illegible] c Kaluperuma b Gallage	42
[illegible]	5
[illegible] c Mendis b Sri Silva	14
[illegible]	34
[illegible]	43
[illegible]	1
[illegible]	16
Total (9 wkts)	373

[illegible] 1-17, 2-112, 3-167, 4-241, 5-261, 6-292, 7-348, 8-348, 9-373

SRI LANKA COLTS: All to bat: [illegible] 8-0-44-0; [illegible] 7-0-49-0; [illegible] 8-0-44-0; [illegible] 8-0-37-0; [illegible] 8-0-44-2; [illegible] 10-0-72-0; [illegible] 10-0-72-0; [illegible] 10-0-54-0

Under-19 World Cup
England v Pakistan

[illegible] Group B match at [illegible] Pakistan won by 13 runs

ENGLAND

[illegible] c [illegible] b Qasim	35
[illegible] c [illegible] b Qasim	11
[illegible] c [illegible] b Qasim	34
[illegible] c [illegible] b [illegible]	17
[illegible] c [illegible] b [illegible]	25
[illegible] c [illegible] b [illegible]	7
[illegible]	6
[illegible]	22
[illegible]	5
[illegible]	9
[illegible]	15
Total (49.3 overs)	251

[illegible] 1-39, 2-109, 3-157, 4-177, 5-181, 6-219, 7-221, 8-250, 9-251, 10-251

PAKISTAN: [illegible] Shoaib b Qasim 34, [illegible] 43, [illegible] 15, [illegible] 12, [illegible] 8, [illegible] 10, [illegible] 24, [illegible] 11, [illegible] 41, [illegible] 1, [illegible] 16, [illegible] 373

[illegible] 1-17, 2-112, 3-167, 4-241, 5-261, 6-292, 9-348, 10-373

[illegible] 10-0-54-0, [illegible] 10-0-72-0, [illegible] 8-0-44-0, [illegible] 8-0-37-0, [illegible] 8-0-44-2, [illegible] 7-0-49-0, [illegible] 10-0-72-0

CRICKET

[illegible] Zonker 66, 69, 68, 66, 70, 340; K Tiedeit 71, 67, 69, 66, 67; P Stankowski 69, 69, 65, 70, 67, J Huston 67, 70, 67, 68, 68; B Fabel 64, 70, 66, 69, 71, M Wiebe 73, 65, 68, 66, 70; B Tway 65, 62, 67, 69, 71, 341; P Jordan 65, 72, 72, 64, 68; C Ferry 69, 70, 70, 64, 68; R Fehr 71, 66, 68, 69, 67. Other scores: 344; S Appleby (Aus) 70, 70, 69, 67, 68, 353; J Pomeroy (Swe) 71, 70, 68, 68, 76

ORLANDO: LPGA Inaugural: Leading final scores (US unless stated): 209: K Robbins 75, 67, 65, 211: M Mallon 71, 71, 69, 212; P Sheehan 71, 72, 69, 213, J Chatles (Aus) 70, 72, 71, J Inkster 73, 66, 74, D Dormann 74, 70, 69, 215; M McGann 76, 69, 70, D Andrews 75, 70, 70, J Ledbeck (Per) 69, 73, 73, 216; K Thornetter 74, 67, 75, S Redman 75, 69, 71, P Burton 73, 74, 69, 217; Se Ri Pak (Kor) 72, 73, 72, H Alfredsson (Swe) 76, 70, 71, 219; A Dibos (Peru) 75, 74, 70; C Mathews (Swe) 75, 73, 71, 221; L Neumann (Swe) 75, 76, 70. Other scores: 222: L Hackney (GB) 73, 74, 75, 223; S Strudwick (GB) 78, 72, 73, M Figueras-Dotti (Sp) 76, 75, 72, L Davies (GB) 76, 75, 72, 224; K Marshall (GB) 78, 76, 72; G Graham (Can) 80, 71, 73, 225; C Sorenstam (Swe) 77, 75, 73, 226; N Harvey (Can) 78, 75, 73, 227; H Dobson (GB) 80, 72, 75

HOCKEY

MEN'S TROPHY: First round: Amersham 2 Cirencester 3, BAC (Bristol) 1 Melton 0; Belper 3 Morton Furness 0, Blandford 5 Newbury 3, Bolton 1 Luton 5, Bradford 1 Bedford 3, Dorchester won Gunsborough scr Evesham, East Devon 1 Worming 4, Evesham 3 Preston 3 (Evesham won 3-1 on penalty strokes), Farnham Common 2 Southend 3, Hayes 1 Richmansworth 2, Headington 2 ECV Hornets (Exeter) 0, Ipswich and East Suffolk 5 Chapeltown 1; Leeds 2 Broadstairs 0, Manchester 1 West Herts 10, Market Drayton 0 Bowdon 10; Nuneaton 1 Old Bordonians 3, Old Holcombeans 2 University of London 1, Oxton 3 Burton 2; Pelsall 5 Liverpool Sefton 0, Phoenix 1 Coalville 2, Rochester and Gillingham 5 Weymouth 1, Shrewsbury 6 Bourne 1, St Ives (Cambs) 1 Blackheath 4, Stone 4 Fleetfield 2 Telford and Shifnal 5 Exmouth 4 Tynemouth 2, Streetly 6, Warwick 2 Guernsey 3, Wisbech 3 Lloyds Bank 3 (Wisbech won 5-3 on penalty strokes); Yate 2 Army 3

ADNAMS EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Cambridge City 5 Sudbury 2; Colchester 3 Bishop's Stortford 1; Crosby 3 Cambridge University 4; Ipswich 1 Clacton 3; Peterborough Tn 4 Luton Town 0

WOMEN'S NATIONAL INDOOR LEAGUE: First division: Bradford 2 Bracknell 4; Wimbledon 4 Exmouth 1; Woking 2 Ealing 4, Sheffield 2 Bradford 5; Sutton 4 Wimbledon 4; Canterbury 6 Woking 2; Bracknell 2 Sheffield 1; Exmouth 5 Sutton 3; Ealing 3 Canterbury 5. Second division: Aldridge 6 Loughborough Students 1; Loughtonians 5 Portishead 4; Welton 2 Liverpool 5; Exeter 2 Dulwich 2, St Austell 2 St Albans 3, Aldridge 4 Welton 0; Dulwich 2 Loughborough Students 4; Portishead 1 Exeter 1; Liverpool 2 St Austell 2; St Albans 6 Aldridge 3, Loughborough Students 0 Loughtonians 1

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Washington 3 Chicago 2; Buffalo 6 Vancouver 2; Colorado 2 San Jose 2 (OT). All-Star game: North America Stars 8 World All-stars 7

SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Eagles 4 Cardiff Devils 2; Bracknell Bees 4 Sheffield Steelers 3 (OT), Nottingham Panthers 4 Basingstoke Bison 3 (OT)

MOTOR RALLYING

MONTE CARLO RALLY: Leading positions (after two stages): 1 T Makinen (Fin, Mitsubishi Lancer) 1hr 05min 56 secs; 2 C Sainz (Sp, Toyota Corolla) 1:06.18.6; 3 P Liatti (It, Subaru Impreza) 1:06.29.4; 4 R Burns (GB, Mitsubishi Carisma) 1:06.30.5; 5 C McRae (GB, Subaru Impreza) 1:06.46.6; 6 J Kankkunen (Fin, Ford Escort) 1:07.12.8

RUGBY UNION

WOMEN'S NATIONAL CUP: Second round: Lichfield 0 Alton 5, Leeds 24 Richmond II 10; Sudbury 8 Cheltenham 15; Lakenham and Hewett 5 Clifton 10; Wasps 25 Waterloo 0; Worcester 5 Saracens 36. Old Leamingtonians no Canterbury Postponed: Richmond v Teddington Anders

ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Roma 13 Treviso 19, Piacenza 17 Calvisano 19, San Dona 13 L'Aquila 17. Pool two: Bologna 42 Piamme Oro 22, Rovigo 64 Livorno 3, Milan 38 Petrarca 20.

SNOOKER

NEWPORT: Regal Welsh Open (Eng unless stated): Second round: T Chappel (Wales) bt K Doherty (Ire) 5-3, J Parrot bt P Davies (Wales) 5-3; J White bt M Davis 5-2, J Burnett (Sco) bt S Hendry (Scot) 5-4; N Walker bt M Williams (Wales) 5-3, I McCulloch bt M Clark 5-1; J Perry bt B Morgan 5-4, F O'Brien (Ire) bt W Jones (Wales) 5-4. Third round: A Hicks bt S Mazrocis 5-1; S Lee bt P Linec 5-4.

SQUASH

NEW YORK: Greenwich Open: Quarter-finals: Men: A Gough (Wales) bt A Fezy (Egypt) 14-15, 15-9, 8-15, 15-9, 15-8; B Davis (Aus) bt O B Borolossy (Egypt) 12-15, 15-9, 15-0, 15-9; D Ryan (Ire) bt R Durbach (SA) 13-15, 15-13, 15-10, 15-12; S Coussbey (Sal) bt Zubair Jahan (Pak) 15-4, 14-17, 15-9, 17-15. Women: R Macrae (Eng) bt L Khan (US) 10-8, 9-6, 6-9, 9-7; D Hollerin (US) bt M Jans (Can) 9-1, 10-8, 8-10, 3-9, 9-3; T Weeks (Aus) bt S Khan (US) 9-7, 6-9, 9-2, 9-4; N Grainger (SA) bt M Hegazy (Egypt) 9-1, 9-1, 9-2

TENNIS

MELBOURNE: Australian Open: Men: Singles: First round: M Philippoussis (Aus) bt A Calatrava (Sp) 7-6, 6-4, 7-6; P Sampras (US) bt S Schalken (Hol) 7-5, 6-4, 6-2; K Kucera (Slovakia) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1 ret; V Spadea (US) bt J Stasiak (Aus) 6-7, 6-1, 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; F Santoro (Fr) bt E Alvarez (Sp) 4-6, 6-0, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4; S Campbell (US) bt J Gimelstob (US) 3-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4; M Washington (US) bt R Vasek (Cz) 6-2, 6-4, 4-6, 7-5; M Damm (Cz) bt M Woodforde (Aus) 6-4, 7-6, 3-0 ret; R Fromberg (Aus) bt T Larsham (Aus) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3; N Lapentti (Ec) bt J A Vidoca (Sp) 5-7, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7, 6-1; H Arazi (Mor) bt H Dreekmann (Ger) 7-6, 6-3, 6-2; B Black (Zim) bt F Marcile (Sp) 6-4, 6-0, 4-6, 6-4; F Clavet (Sp) bt L Burgsmuller (Ger) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4; A Corretja (Sp) bt L Arnold (Arg) 6-4, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3; S Lareau (Can) bt M Norman (Swe) 6-4, 6-7, 7-6, 6-7, 7-5; C Moya (Sp) bt P Tramacchi (Aus) 6-4, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6, D Nestor (Can) bt G Schaller (Aus) 6-2, 6-0, 7-6; M Rosser (Switz) bt B Macphie (US) 6-4, 0-6, 6-4, 3-6, 6-4, D Vacek (Cz) bt L Hewitt (Aus) 6-2, 6-4, 1-6, 2-6, 6-3, J Bonichan (Swe) bt A Selolraydic (Aus) 2-6, 6-1, 6-1, 6-1; J Bunillo (Sp) bt S Sargsian (Arm) 6-3, 6-4, 1-6, 3-6, 9-7, D Prinosil (Ger) bt J van Herck (Bel) 3-6, 6-7, 6-1, 6-4, 6-1; G Pozzi (It) bt A Clement (Fr) 6-4, 4-6, 5-7, 6-2, 6-4, C Pioline (Fr) bt F Meiiger (Sp) 6-4, 1-6, 6-5 ret; P Korda (Cz) bt A Portas (Sp) 6-3, 4-6, 6-1, 6-4, J Draper (Aus) bt D Hrbaty (Slovakia) 6-4, 7-5, 7-6; S Dosedel (Cz) bt A Boetsch (Fr) 6-4, 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; A O Elten (US) bt J-M Gambill (US) 3-6, 7-5, 6-1, 6-3; M Gustafsson (Swe) bt D van Scheppingen (Hol) 6-4, 6-3, 5-0; D Sanguinetti (It) bt A Martin (Sp) 6-0, 3-6, 7-6, 6-3; W Ferreira (SA) bt J Kroslak (Slovakia) 6-4, 6-6, 6-2; M Tillstrom (Swe) bt L Paes (India) 6-3, 6-2, 6-2. Women: Singles: First round: N Vaidyanathan (India) bt G Pizzichini (It) 5-7, 6-4, 6-2; V Williams (US) bt A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) 6-3, 6-0; L Davenport (US) bt A Cocheteux (Fr) 6-2, 6-3, M Serra (Sp) bt R McQuillan (Aus) 6-3, 4-6, 9-7; M Pierce (Fr) bt S Cacic (US) 6-7, 6-4, 6-4; Wang Shi-ting (Taiwan) bt I Gorrochategui (Arg) 6-1, 4-6, 6-4; L Raymond (US) bt N Pratt (Aus) 6-1, 2-6, 6-3; A Carlsson (Swe) bt E Dominikovic (Aus) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; F Labat (Arg) bt K-A Guse (Aus) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; I Majoli (Cro) bt N Sawamatsu (Japan) 6-4, 6-2; A-G Sidot (Fr) bt L Nemesikova (Cz) 6-4, 6-3, S Wiesner (US) bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-7, 6-4, 6-1; A Garrone (Cz) bt M Maleeva (Bul) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2; J Kandarr (Ger) bt S Drake Brockman (Aus) 6-1, 6-4; M Lucic (Cro) bt R Stubbs (Aus) 7-5, 6-1; C Martinez (Sp) bt S Kloesel (Ger) 6-2, 6-2; A Mauresmo (Fr) bt S Fanna (It) 7-6, 7-6; N Miyagi (Japan) bt S Dopfer (Austria) 6-2, 6-1; T Panova (Russ) bt F Lubser (Fr) 6-4, 6-4; S Plischke (Austria) bt E Gagliardi (Switz) 7-5, 6-1; B Schett (Austria) bt M Diaz-Oliva (Arg) 6-4, 6-1; T Tanasugarn (Thai) bt M A Vento (Ven) 6-1, 6-3; E Wagner (Ger) bt J Wiszniewska (US) 6-2, 6-1; N Zvereva (Bel) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 2-6, 6-2, 6-3; P Dragomir (Rom) bt M Bebel (Ger) 6-2, 6-1; M Sherriffs (Holl) bt K Kunce (Aus) 7-5, 6-2

CORBY: Carlsberg Tour: Men: First round: Weal Warrington bt P Mamelok 6-2, 2-6, 6-4

VOLLEYBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Men: First division: Mallory Lewisham 3 Grafton 0; Liverpool 1 Wessex 3; Stoke 3 Whitefield 0; Tooting Aquila 3 Sheffield 0; Paoma Ealing 3 Leeds 1.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbuhel	5	85	good	varied	art	fine	2	17/1
(Most runs giving enjoyable skiing)								
Obergurgl	60	130	good	varied	good	fair	0	19/1
(Excellent skiing on majority of pistes)								
Sell	5	60	good	varied	art	fine	1	18/1
(Pistes in good shape on mid/upper slopes)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	140	260	good	powder	good	fair	-3	19/1
(Fabulous snow conditions everywhere)								
Avoriaz	140	160	good	powder	good	cloud	-4	19/1
(Poor visibility limiting otherwise excellent snow)								
ITALY								
Livigno	75	160	good	powder	good	snow	0	19/1
(Superb skiing on fresh snow at all altitudes)								
SWITZERLAND								
Klosters	40	125	good	powder	good	cloud	2	19/1
(Superb powdery snow everywhere)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper. art - artificial.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a hand from the 1997 US Fall nationals. Michael Einberg, playing West, found a neat defence that eluded the many-time champion and newspaper columnist in the West seat at the other table. Disappointingly my spy hasn't released that name.

Dealer East — Game all — IMPs

	♠AJ5 ♥K7652 ♦Q974 ♣J	
♠10842 ♥A9 ♦K2 ♣AQ852		♠5 ♥J843 ♦J865 ♣9764
	♠KQ973 ♥Q10 ♦A103 ♣K103	

Contract: Four Spades by South — Lead: two of spades

Both tables reached Four Spades from the South seat, with East-West silent, and both declarers received a trump lead, which they won in dummy. Each ran the jack of clubs, and West won his queen, to play a second trump. Both declarers won cheaply in hand, and played the king of clubs. At one table West covered; declarer ruffed, and played a heart to the queen. West took this and played a third club, but declarer could take the trick in hand, draw trumps and give up a diamond. Ten tricks made.

Einberg was West at the other table. At trick four, he ducked the king of clubs. Now declarer ruffed his third club in dummy and played a diamond to the ten. Einberg took the king, and forced declarer by leading yet another club. South had to ruff, and could draw trumps, but now had no spades left. Since diamonds did not behave, and the ace of hearts was with West, who had a long club ready to cash, declarer was down, no matter what he did.

Note the effect of not covering the second club. It means declarer has used up his club stopper. At the table where West covered, the declarer both got a ruff and preserved the stopper.

☐ In the second round of Camrose matches, played at the weekend, England beat Northern Ireland 43-17 while Scotland beat Wales 42-18. This gives Scotland a ten-point lead before its confrontation with England in the final match of the series at the beginning of March.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

World rankings

The top ten players in the new Elo (world chess federation) rating list published this month are as follows: Garry Kasparov (Russia) 2,825; Vladimir Kramnik (Russia) 2,790; Viswanathan Anand (India) 2,770; Vassily Ivanchuk (Ukraine) 2,740; Veselin Topalov (Bulgaria) 2,740; Anatoly Karpov (Russia) 2,735; Gata Kamsky (US) 2,720; Alexei Shirov (Spain) 2,710; Peter Swidler (Russia) 2,690; Alexander Beliavsky (Slovenia) 2,690. As reported yesterday, the highest-ranked British grandmaster is Michael Adams at No 15 with a rating of 2,670. However, this may well rise for the next list, since his superlative performance in reaching the final of the Groningen qualifier has not yet been included in the figures.

Overambition

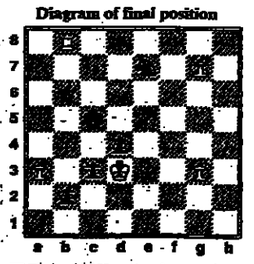
Grandmaster Mark Hebden was co-winner of the Hastings Premier a year ago. This time, in spite of an impressive win against John Nunn (given in this column on January 9) Hebden's result was less impressive. In today's game, for example, a promising position is transformed into a loss by over-ambitious play in the endgame.

White: James Plaskett
Black: Mark Hebden
Hastings Premier
December 1997

King's Indian Defence

1	Nf3	Nf6
2	d4	g6
3	c4	Bg7
4	Nc3	0-0
5	Bg5	c5
6	d5	d6
7	Nd2	h6
8	Bh4	g5
9	Bg3	Nh5
10	e3	Nxg3
11	hxg3	f5
12	Bd3	Nd7
13	Nf3	e6
14	dxe6	Nb6
15	g4	fxg4
16	Nh2	Bxc3+
17	bxc3	Qf6
18	Nxg4	Qxc3+
19	Kf1	Bxe6
20	Nxh6+	Kg7
21	Rh5	Qxd3+
22	Qxd3	Bxc4
23	Qxc4	Nxc4
24	Ng4	Rf5
25	Ke2	Rh8
26	Rxh8	Kxh8
27	Rh1+	Kg7
28	e4	Rf4
29	f3	b5
30	Rh5	Rxg4
31	fxg4	Kf6
32	g3	a5
33	Rh6+	Ke5
34	Rg6	Kxe4
35	Rxg5	a4
36	Rf5	b4
37	Rf4+	Kd5
38	g5	Ne5
39	e3	Ng6
40	Rf3	b3
41	Kd2	Ke5
42	R6	Ne7
43	Rf7	Ke6
44	Rf6+	Ke5
45	Rf7	Ke6
46	Rf4	d5
47	Rxa4	d4
48	Ra6+	Kd5
49	g6	c4
50	g7	c3+
51	Kd3	b2
52	Rb6	Kc5
53	Rb8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

By Philip Howard

SUKEBIND
a. Japanese marinated pork
b. An imaginary plant
c. A hairband

WISHRAM
a. A tent
b. A wether
c. An Amerindian

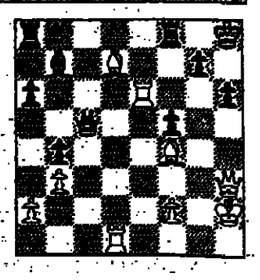
SHUL
a. To sledge
b. A blasphemous expletive
c. The synagogue

SUNYATA
a. A sun hat
b. A martial art
c. Existential emptiness

Answers on page 50

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Kostic — Markov, Niksic 1997. How does White terminate the game swiftly on the kingside?



Solution on page 50

[illegible] posts, they are mirrors," Kidd [illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

Palmer calls for elite to scoop lottery bonanza

Craig Lord in Perth hears an appeal for change after Great Britain's medal failure

Paul Palmer, the only Briton to win an individual medal at the world championships here, has called on the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain to stop funding mediocrity and adopt a system of allocating National Lottery money that gives the most to the best.

His comments came at the end of the championships, at which Britain finished in a worse position on the world stage (seventeenth in the medals table) than at the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996, which was before Deryk Snelling arrived as Britain's first national performance director.

"It's still far too easy to get a place on the team," Palmer, who won a bronze medal in the 400 metres freestyle, said, dismissing the official upbeat assessment of Britain's performance here.

After winning Olympic silver medal in the 400 metres in Atlanta, one of only two medals for Britain in the pool, Palmer was critical of the lack of funding given to sport in Britain. Yesterday, he said that swimming had started to take a more professional approach since receiving its first wave of lottery cash — £2 million — last summer.

However, lottery money was not necessarily promoting excellence, he said. "It's given too broadly. Swimmers are never going to do anything if they can get cash without success. It should be based on an incentive scheme. Otherwise, you're just supporting mediocrity."

A good example of the point that Palmer makes is France, who brought nine swimmers to Perth and returned home with a gold medal and three silvers. Roxanna Maracineanu, the first French world swimming champion, will receive about £25,000 for winning the 200 metres backstroke, an incentive provided by the French federation and the country's Sports Ministry, all a far cry for Maracineanu from the day that she arrived in Paris with one suitcase at the age of nine, a refugee from the Ceausescu regime in Romania.

Palmer does not advocate that all money should go to a few elite swimmers, emphasising the importance of youth development programmes. He said that swimming was still "very much a middle-class sport" in Britain and that talent scouts were needed to make sure that prospective champions did not slip through the net.

"I remember once, when I was quite young, listening to someone say to Ian [Turner, his coach] that one of the best juniors we had was going to be a great swimmer. Ian said: 'No he won't, his mum hasn't got a car.' And that's the truth of it," Palmer said.

The points system at present operated by the lottery meant that there was no incentive to work hard once you had achieved a certain level of performance, Palmer said. Some members of the various national teams had been granted more money than him, even though they had not reached a final at world or Olympic level.

It requires little effort to see that the 900 points on the table used for scoring by Fina, the world governing body, in which 1,000 points is the average time of the top eight in the world, is not a worthy benchmark of excellence. In the women's 200 metres freestyle, for instance, a time of 2min 3.24sec merits 900 points, but would have ranked the swimmer only No 83 in the world last year.

British team officials promoted the statistic that the team had finished fifth in the points table in Perth. The system awards one point for sixteenth place, rising to 13 points for fourth, with extra points granted to those winning medals. It favours those who take big teams to championships and Britain's was among the biggest, with 33 swimmers here. Holland finished fourth on points with only 20 swimmers. Britain cannot possibly be said to be the fifth-best swimming nation. Far from it.

France and its nine swimmers finished fifth in the medal table, well ahead of the two bronzes (the other came from the 4 x 200 metres freestyle relay team, which included Palmer) secured by Britain. Palmer said: "The public perception is that gold medals are all that matter. That's the standard you have to aim for. This team is pretty poor all round. It's getting better, but the way we evaluate ourselves is nonsense."

Britain will have 60 swimmers at the first round of the World Cup, which starts in Sydney on Wednesday, but Palmer doubted whether such money is well spent. He would like to see more going into supporting excellence centres, such as the one at University of Bath, where he trains, under Turner, with several other members of the national team.

Before Perth, Snelling said that he wanted to put down a marker for where Britain stood in the world on the way to the Olympic Games of 2000 in Sydney. The medals table here is where the truth lies.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Higgins puts case for equality

■ **SNOOKER:** John Higgins, the favourite to win the Regal Welsh Open after the second-round elimination of Stephen Hendry on Sunday, claimed yesterday that nobody, including Hendry, the six-times world champion, will dominate the game again.

"There are so many talented young players around these days. I think Steve Davis and Stephen are a dying breed," Higgins said, after reaching the last 16 with a competent 5-1 victory over Terry Murphy.

Higgins next plays Andy Hicks, a 5-1 winner over Stefan Mazrocis. For the second match in succession, Stephen Lee held his composure to win a deciding frame, the victim on this occasion being Peter Lines.

■ **CRICKET:** The restoration of Stephen Peters and Robert Key to the top of the England Under-19 batting order, allied to excellent spin bowling, were the main reasons for an unexpected 18-run victory over Pakistan in the first match of the Under-19 World Cup super league stage. Peters, who was named man of the match, scored 92 and put on 91 for the first wicket with Key.

□ Jock Livingston, one of Northamptonshire's most prolific post-war batsmen, has died in Sydney aged 77.

■ **SKIING:** Graham Bell will spearhead a squad of nine skiers representing Great Britain at the Winter Olympic Games, which start on February 7. Bell is joined by five other Alpine racers and three freestyle skiers.

TEAM: G Bell, A Freshwater, A Baxter, J Ormond, S Ormond, E Carrick-Anderson, T Dudgeon, S Temple, K Harbut.

FOOTBALL

Dalglish aims for high return on past instalment

BY DAVID MADDOCK AND RICHARD HOBSON

THERE is almost something poetic about the return of Kenny Dalglish to Anfield this evening, with the wounded hero returning to the scene of his greatest triumphs.

It is fitting that, in probably the darkest moments of his managerial career, a rearranged FA Carling Premiership fixture away to Liverpool should provide a reminder of the achievements of this great football man. Even Alex Ferguson cannot hope to rival his medal collection.

Yet his critics at Newcastle United are many and vociferous after an undistinguished first year in charge at St James' Park. If Anfield reminds us of the man's status, then the clamour of the past few weeks illustrates that management in these modern football times is a distinctly mortal occupation.

That is something Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, knows all about. There is, he believes, a desperation brought about by the financial implications of success that has undermined even managers of Dalglish's pedigree.

"*I don't suppose Kenny has* been in this position before, but he's no different to the rest of us now," he said. "If your team isn't doing as well as expected, then there is tremendous pressure.

"Only Alex Ferguson is above all that. He escapes the criticism and is allowed to get on with the job of management because of his domination."

Evans believes firmly that Dalglish will get things right in the North East if he is given the time to complete the job. It is a situation that he admitted applies equally to his own position at Liverpool.

That is why Liverpool go into this match knowing that victory will heap more pressure on Dalglish, but defeat — or even a draw — will revive the simplistic refrain that their championship bubble has burst.

Newcastle will have Alan Shearer in their squad for the second time in four days, but the forward is unlikely to start the match.

The England international could have some exotic company within the next few days. Dalglish has engaged in talks with AC Milan over the possible £3 million transfer of Andreas Andersson, 23, the Sweden forward. If negotiations go smoothly, a deal could be agreed by the weekend.

Dalglish is also pursuing an interest in Vassilis Borbokis, the Greece international right back, whom Howard Kendall took to Sheffield United. He is unlikely, however, to capture Andy Griffin, the Stoke City defender. The Newcastle manager made a £500,000 bid for Griffin, but Leicester City have offered £1.5 million.

His attempt to lure Gary Speed away from Everton may also be frustrated. The Wales international entered into talks with Peter Johnson, the Everton chairman, last night over a new contract that will keep him at Goodison Park until 2004.

Dion Dublin, the Coventry City forward, may also be staying put, for the time being at least. Gordon Strachan, his manager, said that Dublin had turned down a proposed £4 million transfer to Middlesbrough, though his view was questioned by Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager. "This thing can be ongoing. Dion knows the score, I've told him about the ambition at this club. I've told him what the future can hold if he joins us. There are things for him to consider," he said.

Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager, has refused to deliver a public rebuke to Savo Milosevic after claims that the Yugoslavia striker spat at supporters during the 5-0 defeat at Blackburn Rovers on Saturday. Little will discuss the issue with Doug Ellis, the chairman, later in the week.

Malcolm Crosby has stepped down as manager of Oxford United after five games in charge. Crosby, who was named as Denis Smith's successor, has turned down a manager's contract with the Nationwide League first division club, but will stay as coach.

JASON REED



Sampras, the holder, kept something in hand when enjoying a straight-sets first-round victory over Schalken

Spanish seeds fall by the wayside

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT IN MELBOURNE

FOUR seeds perished on the opening day of the Australian Open here yesterday. In the men's singles, two Spaniards, Felix Mantilla and Sergi Bruguera, made early departures, while, in the women's event, Irina Spirlea and Sabine Appelmans failed to get beyond the first round.

Mantilla, a clay-court specialist and seeded No 14, was overwhelmed by Byron Black, of Zimbabwe, who won 6-4, 6-0, 4-6, 6-4. However, Sergi Bruguera, seeded No 10, went out in less satisfactory fashion. He trailed Karol Kucera, the conqueror of Tim Henman in Sydney on Saturday, by two sets to one when badly-blistered feet prompted his retirement.

Pete Sampras, the defending champion, did just enough to canter through the first round, ousting Sjeng Schalken, of Holland, 7-5, 6-4, 6-2. As usual, Sampras looked some way removed from his best form, which he will discover as the tournament unfolds. Nevertheless, there was no danger of him losing to Schalken, world-ranked No 52. Sampras plays Davide Sanguinetti, of Italy, for a place in the third round.

Much to the disappointment of the home crowd, Lleyton Hewitt, the teenage upstart from Adelaide, could not maintain his excellent start to the year. Hewitt, 16, was beaten in five sets by Daniel Vacek in a match of wildly fluctuating fortunes.

Although Vacek, the world No 54, is a journeyman, his fierce service, delivered from a great height, proved too potent for the young Australian. Hewitt limped through the first two sets, before suddenly finding his feet in the third and fourth. He won them as comfortably as had Vacek the first two, but when twice confronted by break points on his service in the decider, Hewitt double-faulted to cede the initiative.

Hewitt, who has beaten Andre Agassi and Jonas Bjorkman in the past ten days, must now confront reality. He has considerable talent, but a service that lacks pace. He will have to improve his delivery to advance his present ranking much beyond No 162.

Spirlea, of Romania, became the highest-seeded casualty of the day when she went out to Serena Williams, the No 6 seed losing 6-7, 6-3, 6-1. Victory for the 16-year-old Williams set up a fascinating second-round clash with her sister, Venus, who is a year older.

Appelmans reached the quarter-finals here 12 months ago, but faced a difficult opening match against Natasha Zvereva. The Belgian, seeded No 12, took the first set comfortably against the Belarussian but lost 2-6, 6-2, 6-3.

□ Tim Henman has risen one place to No 18 in the ATP world rankings after reaching the final of the Sydney International last week.

Parma prosper without assistance from Asprilla

Brian Glanville takes a look at an eventful weekend in Italy and France

Why were Parma so keen to buy back Faustino Asprilla from Newcastle United? On the face of it, extra strikers are the last thing they need.

On Sunday, Parma beat AC Milan 3-1, the first defeat since October for Fabio Capello's team. Two of the goals went to Enrico Chiesa, the Italy striker, and Dino Baggio scored the other. The irrepressible Maurizio Ganz, recently bought from Internazionale, scored Milan's goal.

Chiesa apart, Parma have Hernán Crespo, of Argentina, though it is true that his form has been erratic this season. Adailton, the Brazilian prodigy, and Filippo Maniero, bought from Sampdoria, who scored two goals against his old club when Parma lost 5-2 in their previous game.

Inter lost their first league game of the season, 1-0 to humble Bari. The goal came after 32 minutes of the second half from a figure familiar to English fans — Phil Masinga, the South Africa striker, formerly of Leeds United. Five minutes later, Bari should have doubled their lead, but Volpi shot over from point-blank range.

Ronaldo, the Inter forward, displaying the melancholy that, by crossing of wires, was wrongly attributed to Dennis Bergkamp in this column last week, wants not only the tackle from behind to be banned "but also sliding tackles from the side, which, if they catch you in the wrong place, can damage your ankles and leave you sidelined for six months".

How many more rebuffs can Roberto Baggio take? He has already been snubbed both at club and international level and now he is at odds with Renzo Ulivieri, manager of his new club, Bologna, who dropped him, inexplicably, from the match against his old club, Juventus, on Sunday. Baggio walked out of the training camp on Saturday, but his agent insists that he will be back for training today.

But will he? Significantly, Ulivieri also omitted another star striker, Igor Kolyvanov, who did not come on until late in the game. He then scored with a fine free kick, although Juve won 3-1. Baggio, desperate to get into the Italy World Cup squad, knows that he cannot afford to be anything but a regular member of the first team.

There were shocks and surprises in the first round of the French Cup. Strasbourg are out, beaten 2-1 by little Epinal. It did not help Strasbourg when Dogon, their defender, was sent off, but Baticle put them ahead on the hour. Fifteen minutes later, Condi equalised and, just on time, Wisek scored the winner.

AS Monaco, who had lost their past three league games, were shaky survivors against Dijon, of the fourth division, their winning goal coming seven minutes into extra time from Boulila. Metz, the league leaders, struggled through at Le Mans, of the second division, on penalties.

Piotr Nowak, the Poland midfield player, who embarrassed England in a World Cup qualifier at Wembley, has moved from Munich 1860 to the new Chicago franchise in Major League Soccer.

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday January 24

Coupon No. fixture. forecast

FA CUP FOURTH ROUND
1 Birmingham v Stockport 1
2 Huddersfld v Wimbledon 1
3 Cardiff v Reading or Cheltenham 1
4 Charlton v Wolves X
5 C Palace v Leicester 1
6 Tranmere v Sunderland 2
7 Leeds v Grimsby 1
8 Man Utd v Walsall 1
9 A Villa v West Brom 1
10 Middlesbro v Arsenal X
11 Tottenham v Barnsley X

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION
12 Bristol C v Northampton 1
13 Burnley v Southend 1
14 Plymouth v Wigan 1
15 Preston v Chesterfld X
16 Wycombe v Blackpool 1
17 York v Millwall X

THIRD DIVISION
18 Barnet v Colchester 1
19 Brighton v Scarboro 2
20 Cambridge v Chester X
21 Doncaster v Macclsfld 2
22 Hartlepool v Roth'ham 2
23 Lincoln v Notts Co 2
24 Rochdale v L Orient 2
25 Scunthorpe v Swansea X
26 Torquay v Shrewsbury 1

VAUXHALL CONFERENCE
27 Dover v Rushden X
28 Halifax v Slough 1
29 Hednesford v Hayes 1
30 Kettering v Farnboro 1
31 Kidderminstr v Morecbe 2
32 Leek v Stalybridge 1
33 Southport v Welling 1

FRYMAN LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
34 Aylesbury v Carshalton 2
35 Boreham W v B Stort'd 1
36 Chesham v Heybridge 2
37 Dagenham v Hitchin 1
38 Dulwich v Purfleet X
39 Hendon v Enfield 1
40 Kingstonian v B'stoke 1
41 Oxford C v Bromley 2
42 Sutton v St Albans 1
43 Walton v Harrow 1
44 Yeading v Gravesend X

UNIBOND LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
45 B Auckland v Marine 1
46 Blyth Sp v Runcorn 2
47 Chorley v Boston X
48 Colwyn Bay v Leigh X
49 Emley v Winsford 1

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Charlton, Middlesbrough, Tottenham, Preston, York, Cambridge, Scunthorpe, Dover, Dulwich, Yeading, Chorley, Colwyn Bay.
BEST DRAWS: Middlesbrough, Preston, Cambridge Dover, Dulwich.
AWAYS: Sunderland, Macclesfield, Rotherham, Leyton Orient, Heybridge
HOMES: Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester United, Bristol City, Burnley, Barnet, Torquay, Halifax, Leek.
FIXED ODDS: Homes: Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol City, Burnley, Torquay. Aways: Macclesfield, Rotherham, Leyton Orient, Dulwich, Middlesbrough, Preston, Cambridge
□ Vince Wright

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership
Liverpool v Newcastle (7.45)

FA Cup
Third-round replay
Reading v Cheltenham (7.45)

Nationwide League
Third division.
Colchester v Cardiff (7.45)
Exeter v Barnet (7.45)
Macclesfield v Scunthorpe (7.45)
Notts County v Hull (7.45)
Scarborough v Torquay

Auto Windscreens Shield
Second round
Northern section
Wigan v Rotherham (7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Yeovil v Hayes (7.45)

Spalding Cup
Quarter-final
Woking v Farnborough (7.45)

Quarter-final replay
Morecambe v Gateshead (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division
Dundee Utd v Celtic (7.45) ..... P
Aberdeen v Dunfermline (7.45) ..... P

First division
Airdrie v Ayr

Second division
Queen Of South v Stenhousemur
Livingston v Inverness CT

Third division
Ross County v East Stirling ..... P
Alloa v Arbroath
Cowdenbeath v Albion

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Gloucester v Tamworth; Gresley v Bromsgrove. Southern division: Newport (IoW) v Bashley. League Cup: Third round: Moor Green v Sutton Coldfield.
RYMAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Sutton United v Purfleet. Second division: Edgware v Canvey Island; Northwood v Braintree. Full Members' Cup: Third round: Hendon v Gravesend and Northfleet; Leatherhead v Maidenhead; Oxford City v Basingstoke, Whyteleafe v Staines. Associate Members' Trophy: Third round: Egham v Flackwell Heath. Guardian Insurance Cup: Fourth round: Wokingham v St Albans (7.45)
UNIBOND LEAGUE: League Cup: Third-round replay: Belper Town v Bishop Auckland.
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premier division. Derby v Birmingham (at the Baseball Ground, 7.0). First division: Coventry v Huddersfield (7.0); Grimsby v Bolton Wanderers (7.0). Second division: Burnley v York (7.15).
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Chelsea (at Enfield FC, 2.0); Millwall v Wimbledon (2.0)
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Ramsgate v Lordswood; Slade Green v Thamesmead; Tunbridge Wells v Canterbury; Whitstable Town v Beckenham.
UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Langney Sports v Hailsham.
COMPLETE MUSIC HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham v Abingdon.
SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Mangotsfield United v Bridport. Les Phillips Cup: First round: Barnstaple v Taunton.
MINERVA SPARTAN SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: O'Brien Butchers Challenge Trophy: Fourth round: Waltham Abbey v Holmer Green
ENDSLEIGH MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: David Lloyd AFC v Knowle.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Tiptree v Newmarket
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Gosport v AFC Newbury.
INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE: Shilnal T v Stapenhill. Invitation Cup: Second round: Kings Norton v Kington Town. Third round: Bilston Community Coll v Bridgnorth; Evesham v Hinckley A; Worcestern v Stafford Industrial Rewinds League Cup: Second-round replays: Pelsall V v Barwell; Rocester v Willenhall
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v Ossett Town; North Ferriby v Sheffield, Thackley v Selby.
LEAGUE OF WALES: Connah's Quay v Cemaes Ynys Mon (7.45).
IRISH LEAGUE COCA-COLA CUP: Preliminary round: Ballyclare v Distillery; Limavady United v Bangor.
THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP: Third round: Everton v Stoke

RUGBY UNION

Welsh Challenge Trophy
Pool A
Bridgend v Tucumán (7.15)
Pool B
Cardiff v Cordoba (7.15)
Neath v Rugby Canada (7.15)

Club match
Oxford Univ v London Univ (7.15)

OTHER SPORT

ICE HOCKEY: Express Cup: Manchester Storm v Newcastle Cobras. (7.30)
SNOOKER: Regal Welsh Open (in Newport)

ICE HOCKEY

Ayr move closer to league title

AYR Scottish Eagles, winners of the Benson and Hedges Cup in December, took a giant stride towards adding the Superleague title with a 4-2 win over their nearest rivals, Cardiff Devils, on Sunday night (Norman de Mesquita writes).

Although Ivan Matulik gave the Devils an early lead, Shawn Byram equalised within six minutes and two second-period goals from Danuse Bauba gave Ayr the edge. Doug McEwen did bring the Devils to within one goal, but Sam Groleau restored the Eagles' two-goal margin early in the final period.

With seven games to play, Ayr have a six-point lead over Cardiff and Nottingham Panthers, who have two and one games in hand respectively. Nottingham needed a late goal by Jamie Leach, in the seventh minute of overtime, to beat Basingstoke Bison 4-3. It completed a hat-trick for Leach. Derek Laxdal scored the other goal for the Panthers.

Rob Stewart, the Bracknell Bees captain, chose the most opportune moment to score his first goal in ten weeks. There were just 26 seconds remaining in overtime when he gave his team a 4-3 win over Sheffield Steelers, for whom Ed Courtenay scored twice. This defeat probably ended Sheffield's hopes of the Superleague title. They are now 11 points behind Ayr with only eight games to play.

It is difficult to imagine that anyone will deny the Eagles the title, since they are so well balanced and playing with enormous confidence. Their success is testimony to the shrewd judgment of Jim Lynch, who has recruited an excellent mix of players and coached the team with intelligence and imagination.

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William HILL

'LIVE' PREMIER LEAGUE ACTION

4/5 LIVERPOOL 9/4 DRAW NEWCASTLE 3/1

Anfield, Kick-off 7.45pm. Live on Sky.

CORRECT SCORE

LIVERPOOL	SCORE TO BE	NEWCASTLE
6/1	1-0	9/1
15/2	2-0	20/1
15/2	2-1	14/1
12/1	3-0	40/1
12/1	3-1	33/1
25/1	3-2	28/1
8/1	0-0	8/1
11/2	1-1	11/2
14/1	2-2	14/1

Other scores on request.

DOUBLE RESULT

H/TIME	F/TIME	
LIVERPOOL	LIVERPOOL	7/4
LIVERPOOL	DRAW	14/1
LIVERPOOL	NEWCASTLE	33/1
DRAW	LIVERPOOL	4/1
DRAW	DRAW	4/1
DRAW	NEWCASTLE	8/1
NEWCASTLE	LIVERPOOL	25/1
NEWCASTLE	DRAW	14/1
NEWCASTLE	NEWCASTLE	13/2

Bets void if match not completed.

FIRST GOALSCORER

4/1 ...FOWLER (L)
9/2 ...OWEN (L)
6/1 ...SHEARER (N)
15/2 ...TOMASSON (N)
8/1 ...McMANAMAN (L)
8/1 ...BARNES (N)
10/1 ...BERGER (L)
11/1 ...KETSBAIA (N)
12/1 ...REDKNAPP (L)
8/1 ...NO GOALSCORER

Other players on request. Own goals do not count.

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هكذا من الأصل

Jordan claims former champion can provide the missing link

Hill sets sights on the big boys

SIMON BARNES



on the optimism of a new partnership



Hill, right, and Ralf Schumacher unveil the Jordan car for 1998 in London yesterday

YOU will remember Damon Hill. He is the one who Michael Schumacher aimed at and hit. Hard to think of a person who has been world champion at anything in this sort of terms, but — well, always been an unlucky boy, Damon.

Yesterday, he emerged into the spotlight once again, blinking diffidently, as always slightly embarrassed by his own fame. Not just a nice boy, but — almost unique among Formula One drivers — a real one as well.

He was lining up with his latest racing car, with his latest racing team. The team is called Jordan, but — making a deduction from the backdrop against which he stood, which bore no fewer than 33 times the names of Benson and Hedges — it would seem that the printers of Government health warnings have some involvement somewhere along the line.

Hill himself was clad in fag-packet yellow, with you-know-what emblazoned across his chest. The new Jordan car was lowered from the ceiling in a cloud of nauseous — and not altogether inappropriate — smoke.

Actually, this was not a bad launch, as launches go. It took place at the Royal Albert Hall, with the assistance of the sumptuously praised Cirque du Soleil. The best bit was two female contortionists, who performed an act called *The Sport of Formula One and the Tobacco Industry*. Most of the action involved bending over backwards.

But back to Damon. Any minute now — well, March 8 actually — the new Formula One season begins in Australia. It is the motor sport moment of the virgin green pitch, when every club is a champion and every player loves his manager.

Hill seems very happy with Eddie Jordan, his latest team boss, but he doesn't have much to compare him with. His last boss but one fired him for the crime of winning the world championship. The sort of thing that could only happen to Damon.

Hill spent last season slumming it at the back of the grid. He never quite got over the culture shock of having to scroll down to screen two to see his name in any list of drivers that was based on anything other than the alphabet. And then his boss gave him a public telling-off for the crime of driving a slow car, the sort of thing that could only happen to Damon.

Jordan is a good place to go, because the team really believes that it can win a race this season. The downside of this is that they have never won a race before. However, this season, they really are on the cusp of the big breakthrough. Like every other season.

Picking his words with some care, Hill said: "I would be very, very unhappy if I went another season without a win." He will sit in his new nicotine-yellow car for the first time in Barcelona today. Yesterday, he was prepared to surf the wave of optimism.

Yes, the new regulations — less adhesive tyres, less adhesion from down-force — will require more driver input, less emphasis on mere horsepower. That should be a good thing, for Damon and for his team. Meanwhile, Jordan himself, whose flare for malapropism has something of the great Don King, said that Hill was the Missing Link. Meaning, I imagine, that Hill would somehow join Jordan up with the big players of Formula One.

Hill will also be joining up with Schumacher, but it's all right. His team-mate is Michael's little brother, Ralf. Ralf has the classic Schumacher look, his features far too small for the size of his face. "No one wants to beat Michael quite as much as Ralf," Hill said. "So we should make quite a good team."

Ah, yes, the un-archangelic Michael, Damon's nemesis. He crashed into Hill in order to win the drivers' championship three seasons back; tried to do the same to Jacques Villeneuve last season, but missed. It is not just Damon and Ralf who will be glad to beat Michael this year.

> 'His last boss but one fired him for winning the championship'

Hill has won his championship and made his name and his fortune, but here he is, back again, and once again lining up for a second division team. Is it love of the game that keeps him there? Or is it the need to have another pop at Michael?

Michael, not present, dominated yesterday's launch. Yes, Michael, who deprived Hill of his championship and who had a crash and a public row with brother Ralf last season. It is his presence — or even, as yesterday, his absence — that gives spice to a poor sport.

Formula One knows this and that, of course, is why Schumacher gets away largely unpunished every time. And I do not think that Damon Hill or the Jordan team have the wherewithal to punish him next season.

TELEVISION CHOICE

Was Alexander so great?

Walden on Heroes
BBC2, 7.30pm

He set the standard for heroes, says Brian Walden of his latest subject, Alexander the Great. Julius Caesar was jealous of him and Napoleon choose accounts of his campaigns for bedside reading. Alexander's heroic status can hardly be in doubt. Or can it? Like A.J.P. Taylor, who invented the impromptu television lecture, Walden likes to pull the rug away. By the end of another crisp and well-argued discourse Alexander has taken such a battering that you wonder whether he has strayed into the wrong series. Walden does not deny Alexander's great military triumphs in Asia, often achieved despite a huge inferiority in numbers. Admittedly Alexander was fond of having defeated peoples slaughtered but such behaviour is not unknown in our own century. What irks Walden is that his man sought glory entirely for himself.

The Cruise
BBC1, 8.00pm

There is nothing like a show signalling its stars in advance so put your hands together tonight for Scotty O'Brien, Jane McDonald and Ros Goodman. McDonald will already be known to regular viewers as the cruise ship's stage-frightened singer. The other two have top billing for the first time. Scotty is the ship's DJ and reckons he was born to the job. "I'm an excellent success, I'm great at what I do", he exclaims immodestly, while giving thanks to the three people who made it possible — his Mum, his Dad and God ("the man above"). Mrs Goodman, a British cruise veteran, is not in the mood for Scotty's charm. She is furious that they have changed the cruise itinerary without telling her. Or perhaps she is on the wrong ship. At any rate she is not going to let it rest.

Crash
Channel 4, 9.00pm

The central thesis of this second film about road accidents is that normally considerate people become aggressive and oblivious of others once they get behind the wheel of a motor car. The evidence is impressionistic but it helps to support the startling statistic offered by the programme that 96 per cent of accidents are caused by driver error. Skill, apparently, has nothing to do with it. According to a study in America, racing drivers, who represent the ultimate in skill, have more road crashes than other drivers. The crash rate among police drivers, at least in New York, is nine times higher than average. The bleak conclusion is that the only way to reduce crashes is to change human nature, and in particular the widespread conviction that accidents only happen to other people.



Angela with her pupils (BBC1, 9.30pm)

Inside Story: Schoolgirl Mums
BBC1, 9.30pm

Last summer Rhonda became a mother at 15 when she gave birth to Chloe. She lives with the baby's father and still attends classes at Chestnut House in Southampton, a referral unit for young pregnant women. Angela Atwell, head of Chestnut House, is still surprised at how young some of her pupils are but supports their decision to keep their babies. Another pupil at Chestnut House, Jade, was only 14 when she had her son, James. When her mother discovered she was pregnant, she threw her out. Four years on we discover how Jade has coped. Bonnie was also at Chestnut House and gave birth at 15. She is now 25, her daughter Victoria is ten and she has made a successful career as a sales executive. Cathy Elliott's film handles a contentious subject soberly and without trying to judge.

Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

Grave Matters
Radio 2, 9.30pm

The British are slowly becoming better at dealing with previously taboo subjects, including death. In earlier times most people died without having considered the manner of their going but in the 1990s many more of us are planning ahead, including the details of our own funerals. The caveat to be entered here, of course, is that such planning is still fairly unusual, otherwise it would not be worth a radio programme. This one considers, among other things, the interesting contrast between the size of the funeral industry and the changed way it conducts its business: undertaking is now a multi-national business and yet the customers increasingly want funeral services designed to reflect the life of the deceased individual.

Watch Out for the Jellyfish
Radio 4, 10.00am (FM only)

Over the past months there has been an increasing number of prominent politicians becoming available to present radio programmes. All of them are Tories, for some reason, and the latest is Michael Portillo, who presents this journey back to his childhood in Kirkcaldy. Portillo is almost lyrical about the "starlight express", the overnight train service on which his mother took him to Kirkcaldy, the approach to which was signalled, as it were, by the smell from a linoleum factory, still in business, which Portillo visits in the programme. Portillo recalls that he and his mother would be met by his grandfather's chauffeur and taken to the family home, now an old people's home, in a maroon Daimler.

Peter Barnard

RADIO 1

6.30am Kevin Greening and Zoë Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whiley. Includes 12.30pm Newsbeat 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Dave Pearce. Includes 5.45 Newsbeat 8.30 Evening Session with Steve Lamacq 8.30 Digital Update with Rachel Reynard 8.40 John Peel 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs 1.00am Clive Warren 4.00 Chris Moyles

RADIO 2

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 1.30pm Debbie Thrower 3.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 James Galway: Encore! 8.00 Nigel Ogden 9.00 Molly Talks Jazz 9.30 Grave Matters: See Choice 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05am Steve Madden 3.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breakfast Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Midday with Mair 2.00pm Buscoe on Five 4.00 Nationwide with Julian Worricker 7.00 News Extra 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Mark Pougatch introduces coverage of Liverpool v Newcastle in the Premiership 10.00 News Talk 11.00 News Extra with David McNeil 12.00 After Hours 2.00am Up All Night with Rhod Sharp 5.00 Morning Reports

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00am Jeremy Clark 7.00 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show 10.00 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Robin Banks 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyle (AM) Calmin Jones 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00am Richard Porter

TALK RADIO

6.00am Kirsty Young Breakfast Show 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Lorraine Kelly 2.00pm Tommy Boyd 4.00 Peter Deeley 7.00 Anna Raeburn 9.00 James Whale 1.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

6.00am Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf: A Night to Remember 7.30 What's News 7.45 The Lab 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 8.15 Concert Hall 9.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Artyfacts 9.30 Literature File: The Mill on the Floss 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 On Screen 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Civilization 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Health Matters 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack Hit List 3.00 News; News in German (648 only) 3.05 Sports Roundup 3.15 Weslway 3.30 The Greenfield Collection 4.00 News 4.15 Waveguide 4.30 The World Today; News in German (648 only) 4.45 Britain Today 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sports Roundup 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 One Planet; News in German (648 only) 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Pause for Thought 7.30 Megamix 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian Live 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Megamix 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am The Farming World 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 Newsdesk 1.30 Discovery 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Meridian Live 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30 One Planet 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsday 5.30 Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Breakfast with Bailey. Nick Bailey presents a musical selection for the morning 8.00 Henry Kelly. Includes the Record of the Week and a recipe for noodle stir-fry 12.00 Lunchtime Requests. Jane Jones introduces listeners' favourite pieces 2.00pm Concerto. Massenet (Piano Concerto in E flat major) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Includes Continuous Classics and Afternoon Romance 6.30 Newsnight 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven with John Brunning 9.00 Evening Concert. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 1 in F); Handel (Dixit Dominus); Couperin (Concert Royal No 3 in A major); Boccherini (Symphony No 6 in A) 11.00 Mann at Night with Alan Mann 2.00am Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

RADIO 3

6.00am **On Air**, with Andrew McGregor, including Mozart (Andante and Five Variations in G, K501); Brahms (Haydn Variations, Op 56a); Debussy; orch Stokowski (La Cathédrale Engloutie); J.C. Bach (Sinfonia Concertante in E flat); Bach, arr Busoni (Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV565); Sibelius (Pohjola's Daughter)
9.00 **Masterworks**, with Peter Hobday. Pugnani (Overture No 4 in B flat); Beethoven (Seven Variations on Bei Männern Welche Liebe Fühlen, from Mozart's The Magic Flute); Delius (The Walk to the Paradise Garden, A Village Romeo and Juliet); Schubert (Piano Trio in E flat, D929)
10.30 **Artist of the Week: Robert Tear**. Joan Bakewell talks to Robert Tear about composers with whom he has particular associations and favourite conductors
11.00 **Sound Stories**. Richard Baker explores the romantic entanglements of Robert Wagner
12.00 **Composers of the Week: Mozart and the English Mozarts**, with Roderick Swanston
1.00pm **The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert**. Alexander Baillie, cello, Roger Vignoles, piano. Beethoven (Sonata in A, Op 69); Schaltke (Sonata, 1978) (3/5) (r)
2.00 **The BBC Orchestras**. BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier, with Barry Douglas, piano. Mozart (Symphony No 41 in C, K551, Jupiter); Brahms (Piano Concerto No 2 in B flat); Sibelius (Symphony No 1)
4.00 **Voices: Duparc Songs**. Performed by Alison Hagley, soprano, Gerald Finley, baritone, Iain Burnside, piano. Duparc (Serenade Florentine; Le Manoir de Rosemonde; La Vague et la Cloche; Phidyle; La Vie Antérieure; Soupir; Extase; Au Pays où se Fait la Guerre; Elégie; L'Invitation au Voyage; Chanson Triste) (r)
4.45 **Music Matters**. Tommy Pearson talks to Mariss Jansons, music director of the Oslo Philharmonic
5.00 **In Tune**. Sean Rafferty talks to the Northumbrian piper and fiddler Kathryn Tickell on the release of her new CD, *The Northumbrian Collection*. Plus music from South America, Australia and Estonia
7.30 **Performance on 3**. Live from Studio 7, New Broadcasting House. Wyneke Jordans and Leo van Doeselaar, piano duet. Bach (Brandenburg Concerto No 6 in B flat BWV1051); Brahms (Variation on a Theme of Robert Schumann, Op 23); Schubert (Fantasy in F minor, D940) 8.30 Book of the Month. An extended review of Stephen Pinker's new book, *How the Mind Works* 8.50 Concert, part two. Fauré (Dolly Suite Op 56); Ravel (Bolero)
9.35 **Postscript: Word Pictures** (2/5)
9.50 **The BBC Orchestras**. BBC Symphony Orchestra under Matthias Bamert, with Geoffrey Tozer, piano. Gerhard (Symphony No 3, Collages; Piano Concerto)
10.45 **Night Waves**. Richard Coles talks to the independent film director Neil LaBute
11.30 **Composer of the Week: Martinu** (r)
12.30am **Jazz Notes**. Digby Fairweather is joined by Dave Gelly to review new CDs
1.00 **Through the Night**, with Penny Gore

RADIO 4

5.55am (LW) **Shipping Forecast** 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News** 9.05 **Call Robin Lustig**. 0171-580 4444
10.00 (FM) **News; Watch Out for the Jellyfish**. Michael Portillo revisits Kirkcaldy in Fife. See Choice
10.00 (LW) **News; Daily Service**
10.15 (LW) **On These Days**, with Ray Gosling
10.30 **Woman's Hour**. Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 **Medicine Now**. Presented by Geoff Watts
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with Mark Whitaker
12.25pm **Word of Mouth**. Russell Davies explores the language of the sporting post-match interview (3/6) 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; Thirty Minute Theatre: Will You Love Me Tomorrow?** Sheila Goff's play is an alternative version of the 1960s. With Siobhan Stamp, Gerard McDermott and Sarah Rice
2.30 **The Musical Directors**. Richard Baker talks to Deborah Warner, whose recent productions include *Richard II* at the National Theatre and Britten's *The Turn of the Screw* for the Royal Opera (2/3)
3.00 **News; The Afternoon Shift**, with Dale Graham
4.00 **News** 4.05 **Kaleidoscope**. Paul Vaughan reads Patrick Gale's latest novel, *Tree Surgery for Beginners*, and Fay Weldon's *Big Women*
4.45 **Short Story: Snow**. Written by Kate Barry and read by Niamh Cusack
5.00 **PM**, with Claire English and Chris Lowe 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News** 6.30 **Any Bloke**. Gary Brown's comedy series about family life in the 1990s. Starring Jim Sweeney and Caroline Quentin (2/6) (r)
7.00 **News** 7.05 **The Archers**
7.26 **File on 4**. Mark Whittaker examines the proposals for a "no win, no fee" legal system
8.00 **Science Now**, with Peter Evans (r)
8.30 **In Living Colour**. Trevor Phillips is joined by the musician and writer Gil Scott-Heron and other guests in the magazine focusing on black, Asian and Afro-Caribbean issues
9.00 **In Touch**. Peter White with news, views and information for visually impaired people
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: A Play**, by Anton Chekhov, translated by Constance Garnett and read by Alastair McGowan
11.00 **Mediumwave**. A review of the week's media (r)
11.30 (FM) **Irene Worth: An Actress and Her Time**. The last of three conversations (r)
11.30 (LW) **Today in Parliament**. A roundup of the latest news in Westminster
12.00 **News** 12.30am **The Late Book: The Tao of Muhammad Ali**. Davis Miller's poignant account of his friendship with the legendary boxer, read by Kerry Shale (5/6)
12.48 **Shipping Forecast**
1.00 **As World Service**

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.58am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.



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Makinen atones for early lapse

TOMMI MAKINEN, the world champion from Finland, took early control of the Monte Carlo rally by winning both middle stages on the first day yesterday. Makinen, driving the same Mitsubishi Lancer that won him the championship in 1997, moved 4sec clear of Piero Liatti, of Italy, who won the rally last year.

Although Makinen lost 14sec in the opening two stages after a poor choice of tyres, he swiftly made up for that early lapse. Richard Burns, Makinen's British team-mate, was third, 11sec behind the Finn, but Colin McRae, the 1995 champion, was well adrift in fifth place, 50.4sec behind the leader.

Answers from page 48

SUKEBIND

(b) The name given by Stella Gibbons to an imaginary plant associated with superstition and fertility, hence used allusively with reference to intense rustic passions. Stella Gibbons, *Cold Comfort Farm*, 1932: "In the falseness of summer, when the sukebind hangs heavy from the wains 'tes the same."

WISHRAM

(c) (A member of) an American Indian people living in the southern part of the state of Washington. Also the language spoken by this people, a dialect of Upper Chinook. "Cussing out, a Wishram Chinook's English label for a class of aboriginal speech events."

SHUL

(c) The synagogue. Yiddish version of the German *schule* school. George Eliot, *Daniel Deronda*, 1876: "This evening is the Sabbath and I go to the Shul."

SUNYATA

(c) The Buddhist concept of the essential emptiness of all things and of ultimate reality as a void beyond worldly phenomena. From the Sanskrit *sunyata* emptiness, non-existence, *sunya* empty, void. "Sunyata is what is left behind after an endless series of negations, and is therefore the most positive and fundamental of ideas."

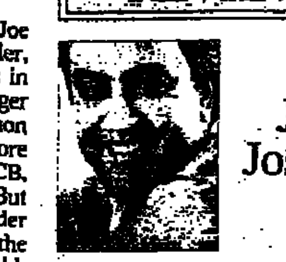
SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Rxh6+! gxh6 2 Qxh6+ Kg8 3 Be6+ Rf7 4 Rg1+ and mate follows.

هكذا من الأصل

How to ensure the earth will move for you

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

Even just a year ago you might well have flicked through the television listings and lazily assumed that a new Channel 4 series going under the title of **Classic Plant** — and which had chosen to focus, in its opening episode, on *Diggers* — probably had something to do with tea roses, mulch and garden spades.

But any close follower of the political landscape would have recognised that this was yet one more homage to earth-moving equipment. Why? Because mechanical diggers in general, and JCBs in particular, have recently become one of a politician's key tools when electioneering.

Any politician with an eye on Downing Street cannot see a JCB without wanting to climb into the cabin and yank the levers. Margaret Thatcher never passed up an opportunity to pop on a hard hat, vault into a JCB cabin and pose for the cameras. Tony Blair, an admirer of Thatcher, wasted no time in follwing her example. During last year's general election John Major was spotted joy-riding around the JCB factory in Staffordshire, while Michael Portillo steered one through Colchester. The political message was clear: *that the surest way to win voters' support is not through building confidence but through building sites*; that a candidate's most persuasive tool in a general election is not powerful oratory, but a powerful JCB digger. Maybe it's because in a JCB you can make a U-turn and cover your tracks so efficiently that nobody can detect your footprints anywhere near the place.

Even Churchill knew their worth, according to last night's programme. With Hitler's troops massed behind the reinforced Siegfried Line, Churchill hatched a plan — never, in the end, carried out — to dispatch 200 enormous, specially designed diggers to destroy the German defences in a giant cavalry charge.

But it was the arrival of Joe Cyril Banford's nimbler, hydraulic-powered JCBs in the 1960s that brought the digger within the reach of the common politician. You can now buy more than 80 different types of JCB, some of which can do 35 mph. But if you're a politician with grander designs, you should consider the *Ace Of Spades*, which uses old-fashioned dragline technology to scoop out 20,000 tonnes of soil per week in a British open-cast mine. At 4,000 tonnes, it's the largest walking dragline in western Europe. Also the most expensive. It cost £15 million to build. Its 65 cubic-yard bucket costs £200,000 alone. It's the sort of digger a politician climbs into when he's considering taking over the world.

John Peel's narration struck just the right amiable note for a programme which, like a Prada nylon anorak, precariously walks the tightrope between cultish and nerdish. But after seeing Channel 4's latest **Heroes Of Comedy**, I would have paid to hear Peter Cook improvising a commentary for *Classic Plant* and its cast of lovestruck digger-fanciers.

When he died in 1995, many people rushed to tell us how Cook's spectacular talent went to fat in his later years; that he had failed to live up to his early promise. Yet as Jonathan Miller — who never even much cared for his *Beyond The Fringe* colleague — said generously last night: "He delivered more promises than most people could ever hope for in a single lifetime."

It is true that Cook once confessed that he wrote one of his favourite sketches when still a teenager. Called *One Leg Too Few*, it was about "a one-legged man auditioning for the part of Tarzan, and it's a bit alarming that I wrote it at 18 because I don't think I've written anything better since." But his performance on a Clive Anderson show in 1993 proved that Cook's genius still gushed when he chose to turn on the tap.

Maybe Cook, having almost single-handedly tilted British comedy onto a new orbit, grew bored with his talent. As John Cleese told us: "I don't think Peter *had* a creative process in any ordinary sense of the word, because most of us have to grind away for something like six or seven hours to produce three minutes of material, whereas for the first 15 or 20 years of Peter's professional life it took him exactly three minutes to *produce three minutes of material*. He would just start talking and everything he would say would be funny. And if you went to dinner he could do it for two-and-a-half hours. In fact you'd get fed up. After an hour and a quarter you'd think 'Stop! I've laughed too much. Now I'd like to talk to you'. In a way I think he used it to avoid making real contact with people."

His widow, Lin, recalled visiting him one lunchtime: "Not getting a reply and letting myself in. There he was still in bed, probably the worse for drink and I just felt immensely sorry for him. It was the first time I had ever talked about his drinking and I asked him 'Why do you drink?' and he said: 'Despair, really'." Making people laugh never seems enough for those to whom it comes easily.

Miller and Cleese and Lin Cook notwithstanding, it all seemed *rather less insightful than the* recent *Omnibus* on Cook: more like clips from a book of condolences than a celebration. And it did seem slightly peculiar not to include an interview with Cook's long-time partner, Dudley Moore.

Though not as peculiar as the fishmonger's advice in **Trade Secrets** (BBC2) on how to choose your supper when shopping in a market: "When you're buying crabs, if you prefer the white meat go for the male crab. If you prefer the brown meat go for the female crab." I will, as soon as the optician's episode of *Trade Secrets* tells me how to improve my vision to the point where I can confidently pinpoint the sex organs of a crab.

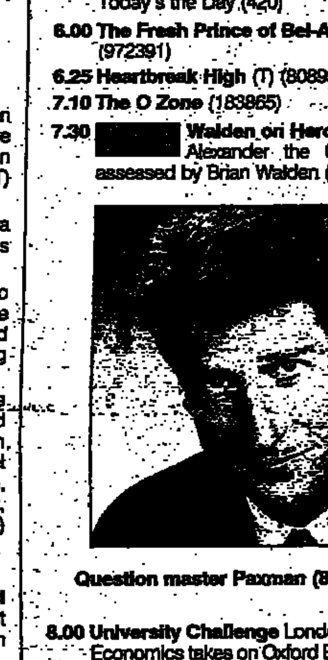
BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (62643)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (32827)
9.00 All Over the Shop (5447020)
9.25 Real Rooms A spare bedroom into a *nursery* (5433827)
9.50 Kilroy (T) (6478865)
10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (T) (8739827)
10.55 The Really Useful Show (7832285)
11.35 What Would You Do? A mistress considering ending her secret affair (4981488)
12.00 News (T) and weather (7509594)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (1238136)
12.35 Going for a Song (7497339)
1.00 News (T) and weather (35914)
1.30 Regional News (61537339)
1.40 The Weather Show (55816339)
1.45 Neighbours (T) (39761933)
2.10 Petrocelli (r) (9986846)
2.55 Wogan's Best of Blankety Blank (r) (3816117)
3.30 Spider (6666643) **3.35** Playdays (9437117) **3.55** Hububb (6725730) **4.10** Chucklewood Critters (3934778) **4.35** The Really Wild Show: Gibraltar (9342448) **5.00** Newsround (T) (8281335) **5.10** The Demon Headmaster (T) (5182914)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (667556)
6.00 News (T) and weather (391)
6.30 Regional News (643)
7.00 Holiday The British Virgin Islands; an economy beach holiday in Bulgaria; the Dordogne; the Bank Holiday Festival in Cornwall; a bargain break in Bruges (T) (5989)
7.30 EastEnders As the search for Gita continues, the finger of suspicion is directed firmly at Sanjay (T) (827)
8.00 The Cruise The crew get into the swing of New Year's Eve celebrations and singer Jane McDonald and DJ Scotty help ensure the evening goes with a bang (T) (9407)
8.30 A Question of Sport Striker Robbie Fowler, WBO Super Middleweight world champ Joe Calzaghe, triple jump British record holder Ashia Hansen and Nigel Bond, snooker's Scottish Masters ace, join regular team captains Ally McCoist, John Parrott and referee Sue Barker (T) (8914)
9.00 News (T) and weather (6778)
9.30 Inside Story: Schoolgirl Mums Britain has the highest number of teenage pregnancies in Europe (T) (991285)
10.25 Private Benjamin (1980) Spoilt rich girl Goldie Hawn enlists in the US Army when her new husband dies in the throes of *passion on their wedding night. Directed* by Howard Zieff (T) (716952) **WALES: 10.25** Snooker (797681) **11.05** FILM: Private Benjamin (349339) **12.50am** FILM: Criminal Behaviour (4362247) **2.15** News (9516315) **2.20** BBC News 24
12.10am Criminal Behaviour (1992) Farrah Fawcett stars as a streetwise LA lawyer whose routine investigations uncover the truth behind a murder. Directed by Michael Miller (T) (5167570)
1.35 Weather (8326334)
1.40 BBC News 24

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BBC2

6.35am Blue Haven (5127575)
7.00 See Hear Breakfast News (T and weather) (2587865)
7.15 Teletubbies (2422136) **7.40** Help! It's the Hair Bear Bunch (4069597) **8.00** Blue Peter (r) (T) (7020020) **8.25** Secret Life of Toys (8286204) **8.45** The Record (4993952) **9.10** Into Work (4063371) **9.25** See You, See Me (9488001) **9.45** Numbertime (9121391) **10.00** Teletubbies (28136) **10.30** Watch (6382001) **10.45** Science Zone (4580310) **11.05** Space Ark (8843730) **11.15** Megamaths (2700440) **11.35** History File (4972730) **12.00** See Hear (r) (T) (86223) **12.30pm** Working Lunch (92136) **1.00** Fireman Sam (27227488) **1.10** The Travel Hour: Basque country and Cantabria (5611827)
2.10 Tennis: Australian Open First round action from Melbourne Park (98914681) **WALES:** Snooker
2.40 News (T) (3041730) **2.45** Westminster with Anne Mackenzie (7265759) **3.25** News (T) (3454049) **3.30** The Village (579) **WALES: 3.30-6.00** Snooker **4.00** Through the Keyhole (4523285) **4.25** Ready Steady Cook (4526372) **4.55** Esther: Being single (3214681) **5.30** Today's the Day (420)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air (2/2) (r) (T) (972391)
6.25 Heartbreak High (T) (808933)
7.10 The O Zone (183865)
7.30 Walden on Heroes Alexander the Great is reassessed by Brian Walden (T) (469)



Question master Paxman (8.00pm)

8.00 University Challenge London School of Economics takes on Oxford Brookes for a place in the quarter-finals (T) (7049)
8.30 Food and Drink Ricotta fruit cake; alcopops for grown-ups. Jilly Goolden and Oz Clarke complete the final leg of their tour of Devon sampling local wines (T) (6556)
9.00 The Devil's Bed (1994) With Nicollette Sheridan. A lonely woman is torn between two brothers. Directed by Sam Pillsbury (T) (5049)
10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman (T) (113865)
11.15 Seinfeld George panics during a fire at a party (T) (948198)
11.40 The Larry Sanders Show (T) (276778)
11.55 Weather (424488)
12.00 The Midnight Hour (44179)
12.30am *Learning Zone: Philosophy in* Action (18266) **1.00** The Emperor's Gift: The Colosseum (31599) **1.30** Wembley Stadium: An architectural tour (86537) **2.00** The Geography Programme **4.00** Sueños World Spanish **5.00** Business and Training: Careers in IT **5.45** The Politics of Equal Opportunity (3681841)

HTV

6.00am GMTV (9757223)
9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (T) (5442575)
9.55 Regional News (T) (8995372)
10.00 The Time, the Place (T) (15662)
10.30 This Morning (T) (50171778)
12.20pm Regional News (7505778)
12.30 News (T) and weather (7483136)
12.55 Shortland Street (7468827) **1.25** Home and Away (T) (71346469) **1.50** Crosswits (39777594) **2.20** Quisine (T) (79997136) **2.50** Vanessa (T) (3838778)
3.20 News (T) (3442204)
3.25 Regional News (T) (3441575)
3.30 Potamus Park (6757339) **3.40** Wizadora (6871575) **3.50** Rupert (r) (9427730) **4.15** Hey Arnold! (T) (3928117) **4.40** The Ward (T) (1168865)
5.10 WALES: Yan Can Cook: The Best of China (7911681)
5.10 Can You Keep a Secret (7911681)
5.40 News (T) and weather (573778)
6.00 Regional News (T) (759)
6.30 Good Stuff (339)
7.00 Emmerdale Kelly is faced with hard decisions (T) (5827)
7.30 WALES: Fishlock's Wild Tracks: The North Anglesey Coast (223)
7.30 Getways Includes a luxury break at Lucknam Park and a postcard from Switzerland (223)
8.00 The Bill Ashton single-handedly solves a mystery break-in (T) (4575)
8.30 Police, Camera, Action! Video footage of the biggest bullies on the road: lorry and van drivers (T) (6310)



John Hannah investigates (9.00pm)

9.00 McCallum: Harvest Maggie discovers Rose, but the baby is missing. If the police are to have any chance of recovering the child, McCallum must work out what links the two *disembowelled bodies found in a sewer* (T) (7759)
10.00 News (T) and weather (61778)
10.30 Regional News (T) (236865)
10.40 State of Emergency (1994) Inner-city medical drama about a stressed-out doctor and his battles against time, the authorities and cutbacks. Directed by Lesli Linka Glatter (49059759)
12.35am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (7271763)
1.05 The Fashion Police (r) (T) (5150599)
1.40 Going in Style (1979) George Burns, Art Carney and Lee Strasberg play disillusioned old men who plan a bank robbery. Directed by Martin Brest (405247)
3.25 Football Extra (r) (3420353)
4.20 ITV Sport Classics (89909711)
4.25 ITV Nightscreen (6873570)
5.30 News (32334)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (7468827)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7911681)
6.25-7.00 Central News (197339)
7.30-8.00 Motorway (223)
4.20am Central Jobfinder '98 (5231215)
5.20 Asian Eye (1485082)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:
12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (7505778)
12.55 Home and Away (7468827)
1.25-1.50 Emmerdale (71346469)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7911681)
6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (97681)
7.30-8.00 Korczak (223)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (7911681)
6.00 Meridian Tonight (759)
6.30-7.00 Surprise Chefs (339)
7.30-8.00 24 Hours (223)
5.00am Freescreen (26179)

ANGLIA

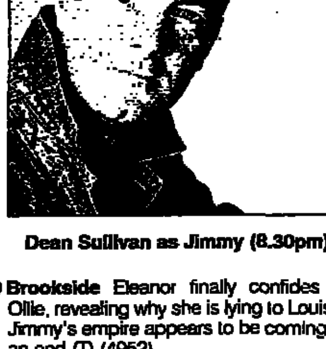
As HTV West except:
12.55-1.25 What's My Line? Occupations game show chaired by Emma Forbes. With June Whitfield, Roy Hudd, Peter Smith and Denise Black (7468827)
5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (7911681)
6.23 Anglia Weather (585914)
6.25-7.00 Anglia News (197339)
7.30-8.00 Out to Lunch with Brian Turner (223)
10.29 Anglia Air Watch (487469)

S4C

Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (58865)
9.00 Ysgolion (741204)
11.30 Powerhouse (3681)
12.00 Montel Williams (51391)
12.30pm Sesame Street (87204)
1.00 Slot Meithrin (27236136)
1.15 Y Blobs (27224391)
1.30 Notes (62664001)
1.50 Film: Lullaby of Broadway (1951). A musical starring Doris Day as a musical comedy actress who goes to New York believing her mother is still a top Broadway star instead of a nightclub singer. With Gene Nelson and Gladys George (26241575)
3.30 Collectors' Lot (117)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (952)
4.30 Countdown (136)
5.00 5 Pump (6933)
5.30 Classic Plant (488)
6.00 Newyddion (330391)
6.10 Heno (921223)
7.00 Pobol y Cwm (803117)
7.25 Dudley (165961)
8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (2117)
8.30 Newyddion (4952)
9.00 O'r Crud I'r Bedd (8001)
10.00 Brookside (423597)
10.35 Jake's Progress (79272117)
12.35am-2.35 Film: A Midsummer Night's Dream (1995). Shakespeare's comedy starring Alex Jennings, Lindsay Duncan and Alfie Burke. Directed by Adrian Noble and adapted from his own Royal Shakespeare stage production (616537)

CHANNEL 4

6.00am Sesame Street (88681)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (58865)
9.00 Schools: Science in Focus (T) (5436730) **9.22** Lost Animals (7708310) **9.30** Eureka (T) (9128204) **9.45** Stop, Look, Listen! (T) (9128204) **10.00** Fourways Farm (6709933) **10.10** TVM (T) (2544049) **10.25** How We Used to Live (T) (2523556) **10.45** Quest (T) (6305952) **11.00** First Edition (7202556) **11.15** Stage One (T) (1260707)
11.30 Powerhouse (T) (3681) **12.00** Sesame Street (51391) **12.30pm** Light Lunch (84038)
1.30 Beyond the Forest (1949, b/w) Melodrama with Bette Davis as a doctor's bored wife, longing for the excitement of Chicago. With Joseph Cotten. Directed by King Vidor (T) (20605440)
3.10 Satellites of the Sun Animation (8681469) **3.30** Collectors' Lot (T) (117) **4.00** Fifteen-to-One (T) (952) **4.30** Countdown (T) (2497317) **4.55** Ricki Lake: I Can't Believe You Let Your Kids Do That in Your House! (T) (3216049) **5.30** Pet Rescue (T) (488)
6.00 Gamesmaster with Dominik Diamond (T) (371)
6.30 Home Improvement Tim gets jealous (T) (681)
7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (474285)
7.55 Things to Come A future where motorways are turned into vast linear art galleries (944198)
8.00 Travelog (3/4) The model Heather Mills goes to Croatia and, Greg Baker, a lecturer, returns to his student roots in Dublin (T) (2117)



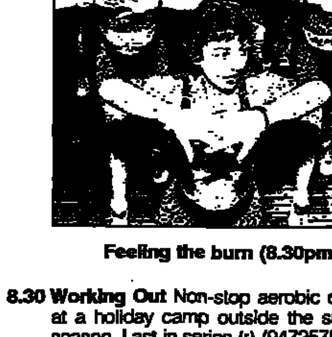
Dean Sullivan as Jimmy (8.30pm)

8.30 Brookside Eleanor finally confides in Ollie, revealing why she is lying to Louise. Jimmy's empire appears to be coming to an end (T) (4952)
9.00 Crash (2/3) An examination *into the attraction between* man and machine. Despite advances in safety technology, crash statistics have not fallen. Is it a case of the safer we feel the faster we drive? (T) (8001)
10.00 Enemy Mine (1985) with Dennis Quaid, Louis Gossett Jr and Brion James. Sci-fi adventure about two enemies forced to work together in the vastness of outer space. space. Directed by Wolfgang Petersen (T) (67748865)
12.05am It! the Terror from Beyond Space (1958, b/w) Sci-fi horror with Marshall Thompson, Shawn Smith and Ann Doran. Directed by Edward L Cahn (T) (8548614)
1.20 Dispatches (r) (T) (7023112)
2.05 Visions of Heaven and Hell (r) (T) (9303578)
3.05 Hidden Hands: A Different History of Modernism (r) (T) (3408131)
4.00 Schools (903711)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE
Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. *Viewers with a* ***Videocrypt*** *decoder will* be able to receive the channel free of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (5630074)
7.00 Exclusive (r) (6939469) **7.30** Milkshake! (7775204) **7.35** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (r) (1088339) **8.00** Havakazoo (7684198) **8.30** WideWorld. How women have moved into the traditionally male profession of architecture (T) (7683469)
9.00 Espresso (1530914) **9.55** The Hot Zone (r) (T) (7752049) **10.30** Sunset Beach (T) *(3673925)* **11.10** Leeza (8684643)
12.00 5 News (T) (7687285) **12.30pm** Family Affairs (r) (T) (8081353) **1.00** The Bold and the Beautiful (T) (6921440) **1.30** Hot Property (r) (T) (9431894) **2.00** 5's Company (8858759)
3.30 Funny Business (1978) Walter Matthau presents a compilation of great comedy moments from the movies, featuring the work of W.C. Fields, the Marx Brothers and Mae West (4761643)
5.30 Movie Cafe Julia Bradbury presents the film magazine that looks at all the latest releases (8613778)
6.00 100 Per Cent (8603391)
6.30 Family Affairs Tim assumes the worst when Holly says she needs some space (T) (8694643)
7.00 5 News (T) (9477020)
7.30 The Hot Zone: Long African Day A day in the life of an elephant calf as it tries to keep up with the herd (T) (8690827)
8.00 Instant Gardens In the last of the series the team transform the Croydon garden of two competition winners (9453440)



Feeling the burn (8.30pm)

8.30 Working Out Non-stop aerobic classes at a holiday camp outside the summer season. Last in series (r) (9472575)
9.00 Poltergeist: The Legacy A crate full of ancient artefacts arrives at the Legacy — along with dozens of evil spirits (T) (5232020)
9.55 Poltergeist: The Legacy Alex's sister becomes involved with a mystic medicine man. With Derek de Lint, Patrick Fitzgerald and Robbi Chong (T) (8524310)
10.45 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and comedy (7827001)
11.30 Live and Dangerous Sports *magazine* hosted by Dominik Diamond and Shelley Webb. Includes celebrity guests and a phone-in (68607681)
3.45am Futbol Americas (8119112)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (1874792)
5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (6051605)

SATELLITE AND CABLE

● For further listings see Saturday's *Vision*

SKY 1
7.00am Street Sharks (76285) **7.30** Simpsons (88020) **8.00** Bump in the Night (23804311) **8.15** Oprah (6810914) **9.00** Hotel (33643) **10.00** Another World (84204) **11.00** Days of Our Lives (64440) **12.00** Married with Children (82285) **12.30pm** M*A*S*H (18198) **1.00** Geraldo (39681) **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (61865) **3.00** Jenny Jones (49594) **4.00** Oprah (28001) **5.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (9662) **6.00** Dream Team (4223) **6.30** Married with Children (5575) **7.00** Simpsons (7961) **7.30** Real TV (1759) **8.00** Rescue Paramedics (6339) **8.30** Coppers (5846) **9.00** World's Scariest Police Chases (r) (67488) **10.00** The Extraordinary (60575) **11.00** Star Trek: Next Generation (85933) **12.00** Late Show (62995) **1.00am** In the Heat of the Night (55265) **2.00** Long Play (4895570)

SKY BOX OFFICE
Sky's pay-per-view movie channels. To view any film telephone 0990 800888. Each film costs £2.99 per viewing
SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 26) **The Long Kiss Goodnight (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) **The Glimmer Man (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) **Surviving Picasso (1996)**
SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) **Sleepers (1996)**

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1
6.00am Topaz (1969) (13001) **8.00 Family Plot (1976)** (52117) **10.00 The Hot Rock (1972)** (12914) **12.00 Volcano: Fire on the Mountain (1996)** (75876) **1.30pm Robin and the Seven Hoods (1964)** (29198) **3.30 Lost Treasure of Dos Santos (1996)** (87043) **5.00 The Pippi Longstocking (1988)** (98846) **7.00 Volcano: Fire on the Mountain (1996)** (81117) **9.00 It's My Party (1995)** (75407) **11.00 Hellraiser IV: Bloodline (1996)** (95117) **12.35am Cheech and Chong's the Corsican Brothers (1984)** (847605) **2.05 Milk Money (1994)** (672518) **3.55 Hercules in the Underworld (1994)** (89778976)

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2
6.00am Magnificent Obsession (1935) (11643) **8.00 The Karate Kid II (1986)** (50758) **10.00 The Son of Robin Hood (1959)** (4741049) **11.25 The Brasher Doubloon (1947)** (2090240) **12.40pm Don't Bother to Knock (1952)** (2302681) **2.00 Mission: Impossible (1996)** (59469) **4.00 My Uncle: The Alien (1996)** (22049) ***5.30 The Karate Kid II (1986)*** (68136) **8.00 The Tomorrow Man (1996)** (11933) **9.35 Mission: Impossible (1996)** (899223) **12.00 Legends of the Fall (1995)** (99438228) **2.15am The Demolitionist (1996)** (889334) **3.45 Funny Man (1994)** (91660624)

SKY MOVIES GOLD
4.00pm Heller in Pink Tights (1960) (5804285) **6.00 Ivanhoe (1982)** (35907372) **8.20 Children of a Lesser God (1986)** (58653910) **10.20 Showdown in Little Tokyo (1991)** (89701662) **11.45 Aliens (1986)** (81781662) **2.20am You Were Never Lovelier (1942)** (4410711) **4.00 Killer's Kiss (1955)** (92592537)

TNT
9.00pm Desperate Trail (1994) (10389391) **11.00 Dark Victory (1939)** (91691117) **1.00am The Walking Stick (1970)** (91842841) **3.00 Desperate Trail (1994)** (92289179) **5.00 Close**

SKY SPORTS 1
7.00am Sports Centre (23117) **7.30** Beachcomber Soccer Sevens (24440) **8.30** Sports Centre (48594) **9.00** Racing News (37846) **9.30** Aerobics (72407) **10.00** Spanish Football (52643) **12.00** Aerobics (40310) **12.30pm** Football (20876) **2.30** V-Max (7198) **3.00** Big Shots (72846) **4.00** Women's Golf (6730) **5.00** Sports Centre (8827) **6.30** Tartan Extra (2407) **7.00** Live Football Special (9791575) **10.30** Sports Centre (34759) **11.00** The Footballers' Football Show (32865) **12.00** Tartan Extra (20537) **12.30am** Sports Centre (85976) **1.00** Football Special (29599) **2.30** The Footballers' Football Show (68534) **3.30** Sports Centre (26353) **4.00** Close

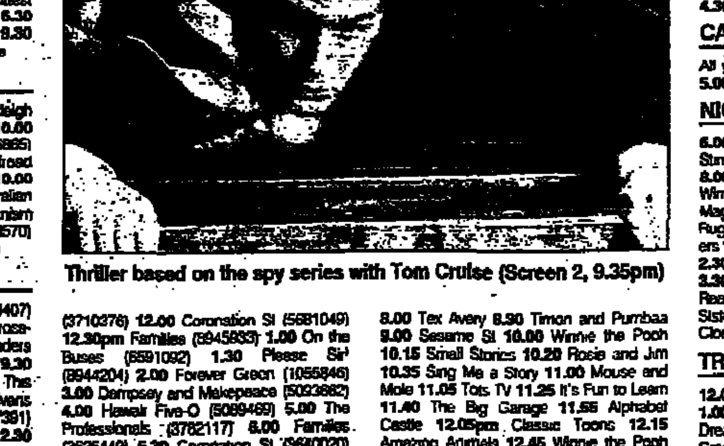
SKY SPORTS 2
7.00am Aerobics (5034440) **7.30** Sports Centre (5053575) **8.00** Racing (9067914) **8.30** Fish TV (8225681) **9.30** League Review (7318204) **10.00** World Motor Sport (4318730) **1.30pm** NHL (8249469) **3.30** Motor Sport (6583391) **4.30** Pro Beach Soccer (8226310) **5.30** Cue Masters (5122827) **6.00** Sports Unlimited (7397339) **7.00** Sports Centre (6815001) **7.30** Rugby Sevens (5917952) **8.30** Figure Skating (4683865) **10.30** Sport USA (6490372) **12.30am** V-Max (6488808) **1.00** Sports Centre (8236824) **1.30** Sports Unlimited (5960044) **2.30** Rugby Sevens (6539570) **3.30** Live Cricket: Australia v New Zealand (7981402)

SKY SPORTS 3
12.00pm Rugby Sevens (65900440) **1.00** Fish TV (65926488) **2.00** Super League Classics (91674440) **3.30** Sport USA (77582204) **5.30** Survival of the Fittest (72556533) **6.00** Fish TV (75706066) **6.30** Cricket: U19 World Cup (59159469) **8.30** Women's Golf (97891827) **11.30** Close

EUROSPORT
7.30am Rally (5402204) **7.45** Bobsleigh (9429001) **8.30** Eurogoals (15846) **10.00** Live Tennis: Australian Open (5526865) **6.30pm** Freeride (45914) **7.00** Offroad (12952) **8.00** Live Boxing (73448) **10.00** Rally (405469) **10.15** Tennis: Australian Open (835339) **11.15** Equestrianism (714778) **12.00** Olympic Games (5446570) **12.15am** Rally (5462421) **12.30** Close

UK GOLD
7.00am I Didn't Know You Cared (2796407) **7.35** Neighbours (5052407) **8.00** Crossroads (8320469) **8.25** EastEnders (3662391) **9.00** The Bill (5708001) **9.30** Howards' Way (5149662) **10.00** Bless This House (7209223) **10.30** The Sullivans (5704285) **11.00** Boon (8607391) **12.05pm** Crossroads (52008488) **12.30** Neighbours (20390285) **12.55** EastEnders (2317056) **1.30** Sykes (7002558) **2.10** 2point4 Children (9187594) **2.50** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (3809198) **3.30** The Bill (4999661) **4.00** Juliet Bravo (43969339) **5.05** EastEnders (2582846) **5.40** Bob's Full House (7204198) **6.20** To the Manor Born (7174136) **7.00** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (1715778) **7.40** The Liver Birds (9705556) **8.20** 2point4 Children (6282933) **9.00** The Bill (6295914) **9.30** Spender (56695556) **10.40** French and Saunders (2860223) **11.20** Not the Nine O'Clock News (8685759) **11.55** FILM: The Man in Grey (1943) (5695630) **1.30am** Miami Vice (9982334) **2.20** Shopping (44027957)

GRANADA PLUS
6.00am The Box (1569407) **7.00** El Uncut (5141561) **7.30** Coronation St (6498446) **8.00** Blind Date (9965335) **9.00** Within These Walls (3048223) **10.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (4591812) **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (3710376) **12.00** Coronation St (5681049) **12.30pm** Families (8945933) **1.00** On the Buses (6591092) **1.30** Please Sir! (8944204) **2.00** Forever Green (1055846) **3.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (5093662) **4.00** Hawaii Five-O (5089469) **5.00** The Professionals (3782117) **6.00** Families (3626440) **6.30** Coronation St (3640020) **7.00** On the Buses (3783846) **7.30** Pigley Files (3646204) **8.00** Sherlock Holmes (8207575) **9.00** Coronation St (5001681) **9.30** Comedians (8932469) **10.00** The Professionals (8297198) **11.00** Close



Thriller based on the spy series with Tom Cruise (Screen 2, 9.35pm)

CARLTON SELECT (CABLE)
5.00pm Gridlock (84848198) **5.30** Hey Dad!! (94156317) **6.00** Blockbusters (16997040) **6.30** A Country Practice (83801420) **7.00** Men of the World (84951662) **7.30** Our House (87401484) **8.00** Desmond's (84860310) **8.30** Just a Gigolo (84956117) **9.00** Shine On, Harvey Moon (10373730) **10.00** The Camomile Lawn (10383117) **11.00** St Elsewhere (52957407) **12.00** Let the Blood Run Free (99425808) **12.30am** Tales of the Unexpected (22788599)

DISNEY CHANNEL
6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree **6.30** Talespin **7.00** Mighty Ducks **7.30** Gargoyles **8.00** Tex Avery **8.30** Timon and Pumbaa **9.00** Sesame St **10.00** Winnie the Pooh **10.15** Small Stories **10.20** Rosie and Jim **10.35** Sing Me a Story **11.00** Mouse and Mole **11.05** Tots TV **11.25** It's Fun to Learn **11.40** The Big Garage **11.55** Alphabet Castle **12.05pm** Classic Toons **12.15** Amazing Animals **12.45** Winnie the Pooh **1.00** Sesame St **2.00** Jungle Cubs **2.30** Chip 'n' Dale **3.00** Timon and Pumbaa **3.30** Recess **3.45** Men in Black **4.15** Recess **4.30** New Doug **5.00** Smart Guy **5.30** Student Bodies **6.00** Boy Meets World **6.30** Home Improvement **7.00** FILM: Double Agent **8.30** Dinosaurs **9.00** Touched by an Angel **10.00** Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK
6.00am Eek! Stravaganza **6.30** Ace Ventura **7.00** Casper **7.30** Power Rangers Zeo **8.00** Beetleborgs **8.30** Masked Rider **9.00** Magic Box **9.30** Dudley the Dragon **10.00** Pinocchio **10.30** Peter Pan **11.00** Oliver Twist **11.30** Huckleberry Finn **12.00** Gulliver's Travels **12.30pm** X Men **1.00** Spiderman **1.30** Iron Man **2.00** Fantastic Four **2.30** Power Rangers Zeo **3.00** Beetleborgs **3.30** Masked Rider **4.00** Ace Ventura **4.30** Casper **5.00** Goosebumps **5.30** X Men **6.00** Spiderman **6.30** The Tick

TCC
6.00am Happily Ever After **6.30** Romuald the Reindeer **7.00** Sprou **7.30** Dennis the Menace **8.00** Batman **9.00** Earthworm Jim **9.30** Beverly Hills Teens **10.00** Oscar's Orchestra **10.30** Flash Gordon **11.00** Iznogoud **11.30** Gigantor **12.00** Spirou **12.30pm** Beverly Hill Teens **1.00** Batman **1.30** AJ's Time Travellers **2.00** Iznogoud **2.30** Flash Gordon **3.00** Gigantor **3.30** Earthworm Jim **4.00** Dennis the Menace **4.30** Batman **5.00** Close

CARTOON NETWORK
All your favourite cartoons broadcast from 5.00am to 9.00pm, seven days a week.

NICKELODEON
6.00am Count Duckula **6.30** Ren and Stimpy **7.00** Angry Beavers **7.30** Rugrats **8.00** Doug **8.30** Arthur **9.00** CBBC **10.00** Wimzie's House **10.30** Babar **11.00** The Magic School Bus **11.30** PB Bear etc **12.00** Rugrats **12.30pm** Blues Clues **1.00** Clangers **1.30** Muppet Babies **2.00** Fraggle Rock **2.30** Alvin and the Chipmunks **3.00** Jumanji **3.30** Doug **4.00** Hey Arnold! **4.30** Aaahh! Real Monsters **5.00** Rugrats **5.30** Sister Sister **6.00** Sabrine **6.30** Moesha **7.00** Close

TROUBLE
12.00pm Swan's Crossing **12.30** Sweat **1.00** Heartbreak High **1.30** California Dreams **2.00** Saved by the Bell **2.30** Swan's Crossing **3.00** TX **3.30** TBA **4.00** Saved by the Bell **4.30** USA High **5.00** Sweat **5.30** California Dreams **6.00** TX **6.30** USA High **7.00** Heartbreak High **7.30** TBA **8.00** Close

CHALLENGE TV
5.00pm Fifteen-to-One **5.50** Family Fortunes **6.30** Catchphrase **7.05** Blockbusters **7.30** Give Us A Clue **8.00** All Clued Up **8.30** Whittle **9.15** Sale of the Century **10.00** Treasure Hunt **11.00** 3-2-1 **12.00** Studs **12.30am** Moonlighting **1.30** Big Valley **2.30** Zorro **3.00** Father Dowling **4.00** Mighty Jungle **4.30** Zorro **5.00** Screenshop

BRAVO
6.00pm A-Team (3729488) **9.00** Tour of Duty (3732952) **10.00** Red Shoe Diaries (5714662) **10.30** The Basement (5723310) **11.00** FILM: Shogun Assassin (1980) (7213952) **12.50am** Unbalanced World (3182518) **1.00** The Basement (5560421) **1.30** Tour of Duty (9439686) **2.30** FILM: Bloody Birthday (1980) (7459792) **4.20** Unbalanced World (15758808) **4.30** The Maxx (5558686) **5.00** A-Team (9820112)

PARAMOUNT COMEDY
7.00pm Grace Under Fire (5865) **7.30** Roseanne (9933) **8.00** Kenny Everett (1285) **8.30** Almost Perfect (3020) **9.00** Cheers (88407) **9.30** Ellen (54001) **10.00** Frasier (49681) **10.30** Terry and Julian (25001) **11.00** Comedy Network (83952) **11.30** Caroline in the City (42074) **12.00** Ellen (28179) **12.30am** Nightstand (83518) **1.00** Cheers (13228) **1.30** Roseanne (51976) **2.00** Caroline in the City (21808) **2.30** Comedy Network (89565) **3.00** Frasier (26792) **3.30** Terry and Julian (24995)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL
6.00pm Sightings (1796136) **6.30** Deepwater Black (1775643) **9.00** The Cape (6863407) **10.00** Dark Skies (6866594) **11.00** Dark Skies (5254778) **12.00** Sightings (9426995) **1.00am** Twilight Zone (2549265) **1.30** Tales of the Unexpected (7445421) **2.00** Dark Shadows (6526247) **2.30** New Hitchcock (6538082) **3.00** Friday the 13th (7820470) **4.00** Close

HOME & LEISURE
9.00am The Joy of Painting **9.30** Garden Club **10.00** Garden Doctors **10.30** New Yankee Workshop **11.00** Total Fishing with Matt Hayes **11.30** Hometime **12.00** Period Rooms **12.30pm** Gimme Shelter **1.00** Yan Can Cook **1.30** The Furniture Guys **2.00** Home Again **2.30** Our House **3.00** Two's Country **3.30** This Old House **4.00** Close

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Rex Hunt (4976730) **4.30** Jurassica Files (4972914) **5.00** Flightline (5478681) **5.30** Treasure Hunters (4986594) **6.00** Superhunt (5166339) **7.00** Beyond 2000 (5465117) **7.30** Flightline (4973643) **8.00** Solar Empire (3725862) **9.00** Extreme Machines (3712198) **10.00** Secret Battle of Britain (3715285) **11.00** Air Power (9342662) **12.00** Top Wings (4337976) **1.00am** Turning Points (5573995) **1.30** Beyond 2000 (3559063) **2.00** Close

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
7.00pm Lord of the Animals (1293730) **7.30** Outerbounds (1533662) **8.00** Tale of the Crayfish (1653107) **9.00** Little Warriors (3631431) **10.00** Jason Project (3006038) **11.00** Patagonia (8583961) **12.00** Superinfels (5244518) **1.00am** Close

TRAVEL (CABLE)
12.00pm Travel Live **1.00** Tales from the Flying Sofa **1.30** Worldwide Guide **2.00** Travel Trails **2.30** The Flavours of France **3.00** Railway Adventures Across Europe **3.30** Caribbean Diary **4.00** Snow Safari **4.30** Beyond Borders **5.00** Pathfinders **5.30** On Tour **6.00** Aspects of Life **6.30** Gatherings and Celebrations **7.00** Travel Live **8.00** Reel World **8.30** Snow Safari **9.00** Destinations **10.00** Tales from the Flying Sofa **10.30** On the Horizon **11.00** Supercities **11.30** Floyd on Spain **12.00** Close

THE HISTORY CHANNEL
4.00pm Korea: The Forgotten War (5458223) **5.00** The Kennedys (6814372) **6.00** Ancient Mysteries (7337339) **7.00** Biography: Audrey Hepburn — an Intimate Portrait (7710440) **8.00** Close

CARLTON FOOD (CABLE)
9.00am Food Network Daily **9.30** Food for Thought **10.00** Chef on a Shoestring **10.30** What's Cooking? **11.00** Worrall Thompson Cooks **11.30** Graham Kerr's Kitchen **12.00** Food Network Daily **12.30pm** Alive and Cooking **1.00** Food for Thought **1.30** A Taste of Africa **2.00** Chef for a Day **2.30** Food Network Daily **3.00** The Green Gourmet **3.30** Worrall Thompson Cooks **4.00** For Better, for Worse **4.30** Frances Bissell's Westcountry Kitchen **5.00** Close

LIVING
6.00am Tiny Living **9.00** Entertainment Now **9.15** Hart to Hart **10.10** Jerry Springer **11.00** Young and Restless **11.55** Brookside **12.25pm** Jimmy's **1.00** Cheap Chic **1.30** Tempestt **2.20** Ready, Steady, Cook **3.00** Live at Three **4.10** Jerry Springer **5.00** Rolonda **5.50** Cheap Chic **6.20** Ready Steady Cook **7.00** Rescue 911 **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Miracles **8.00** Side Effects **9.00** Halifax fp **11.00** Sex Life Down Under

ZEE TV
5.30am Kannam Poochi **7.00** Ramadan Special **7.30** Business **8.30** Aahaa **9.00** Revathi **9.30** Health Show **10.00** Parivartan **11.00** Shahi Dawat **11.30** Daraar **12.00** FILM **3.00pm** Baat Ban Jaye **3.30** Sailaab **4.00** Ramadan Special **4.30** On a Hat Trick **5.00** Amar Kathayen **5.30** Quiz Contest **6.00** Hum Paanch **6.30** Pop Busters **7.00** Aap Ki Farmaish **7.30** Chalo Cinema **8.00** News **8.30** Daraar **9.00** Hum Aapke Hain Woh **9.30** Ikke Pe Ikka **10.00** Tara **11.00** Sa Re Ga Ma **12.00** Close

هكذا من الأصل



SWIMMING 49
Palmer calls into question the lottery of funding

SPORT

MOTOR RACING 50
Hill prepares for drive back to pole position



TUESDAY JANUARY 20 1998

Historic home may be abandoned

Arsenal debate grounds for Wembley move

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

ARSENAL confirmed yesterday that moving to Wembley Stadium is one of three options under consideration in their search for a home ground big enough to handle the demand for tickets.

Attempts to increase the capacity of their Highbury stadium, 38,500 at the moment, in an effort to maximise gate revenues have met with strong local opposition, while the possibility of a new purpose-built facility in the King's Cross area has also been considered.

However, the option of staging games at Wembley, which holds 80,000, is the most radical and likely to raise hackles well beyong the confines of London N5.

The national stadium is regarded as the most neutral of all football venues and retains a distinct cachet, even in these days of Auto Windscreen Shield finals and third division play-offs. Indeed, there was considerable controversy when the 1991 Tottenham v Arsenal FA Cup semi-final, and both 1993 semi-finals, were played there.

For it to become a club ground would cause an outcry, especially among supporters of any team that found itself contesting a cup final against Arsenal at the regular home of their opponents.

A club statement said: "Arsenal have recently been considering ways of increasing their crowd capacity. Initial discussions have taken place with several interested potential parties, including Wembley. These discussions are at a very early stage and represent one of a number of options."

The announcement could also cause problems for the existing redevelopment plans for Wembley. A significant renovation, costing an estimated £240 million and expected to take two years, is scheduled to begin after the FA Cup Final next year, although no increase in the present capacity of 80,000 is planned. At present, funding is to come jointly from the Football Association and the English Sports Council, which has pledged £120 million of National Lottery funds. However, lottery rules do not allow public money to be spent on profit-making ventures for companies.

Martin Corrie, a Wembley spokesman, said: "As a commercial organisation, we are always looking at business opportunities and we are aware of Arsenal's interest in possibly using Wembley Stadium. There have been some informal conversations with Arsenal, but I must stress that they were very preliminary discussions. It has got nowhere near being discussed at boardroom level between us and we know that Arsenal have very many other options to explore."

The Football Association was guarded in its reaction. "It clearly has important implications for all those involved in the partnership that has been developing the National Stadium project, notably the English Sports Council, Wembley Stadium Ltd and ourselves as well as other sports," David Davies, the FA public affairs director, said.

"The matter is receiving our urgent attention. Our aim has always been to lead the way in developing a stadium fit to meet the aspirations of English football at international level in the 21st Century. That includes the staging of the World Cup final in 2006.

"Our aim remains unchanged today. What is needed above all else is a rapid end to any uncertainty surrounding the project. The nation needs a national stadium and it needs it soon."

From the club's point of view, the expansion of Highbury, Arsenal's home since 1913, would definitely be preferable to moving out, but planning problems have bedevilled the club's attempts to enlarge their cramped but grand home.

The the listed status of the architecturally outstanding East Stand means that alterations to the stand itself, or to nearby buildings, would be subjected to lengthy planning inquiries, at which local residents would be sure to raise objections. Furthermore, the restrictions on alterations to listed buildings would make the ground an unattractive proposition for prospective buyers. However, it was stressed that yesterday's announcement was not an attempt to put pressure on Islington council.

Arsenal would not be the first league club to stage home games at Wembley. In 1930, seven years after the opening of the stadium, Leyton Orient played two matches there after being temporarily forced to leave their Lea Bridge ground. They beat Brentford 3-0 in front of 10,300 spectators, but only 2,500 saw the visit of Southend United.

Return to Anfield, page 49

Adams preparing to step in for Keown

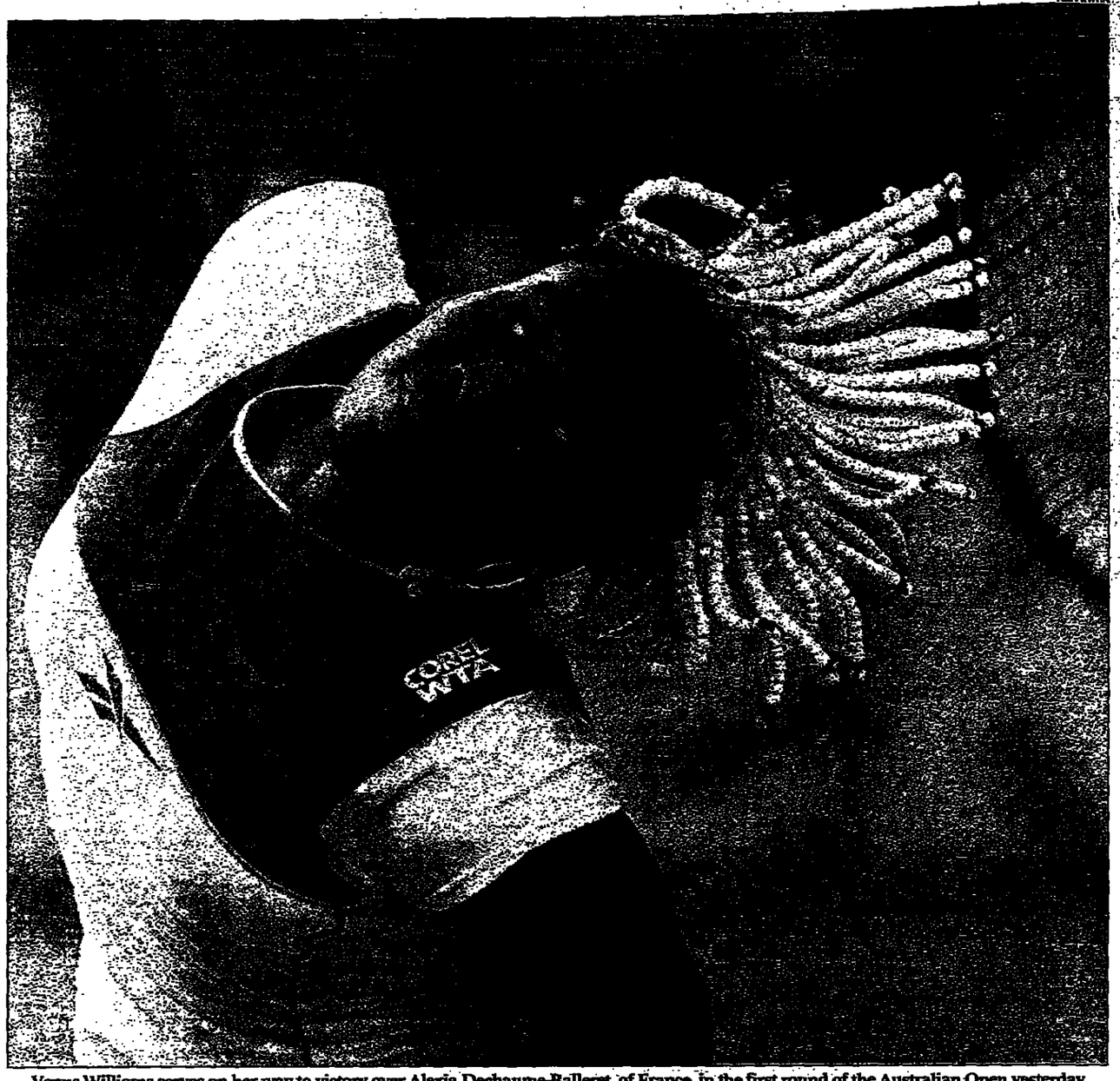
TONY ADAMS, the Arsenal captain, could be recalled to the team for the FA Cup fourth-round tie at Middlesbrough on Saturday if he comes safely through a reserve team game against Chelsea today.

Adams, 31, returned to full training last week after attending a fitness clinic in France for intensive hydrotherapy treatment on back and ankle injuries. His last FA Carling Premiership game was on December 13.

Although Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, had intended to give the England defender more time to regain match fitness, his hand could be forced by the hamstring injury picked up by Martin Keown at Coventry City on Saturday.

"Tony has come back looking very well and strong," Wenger said. "We will continue to look at his progress every day, but he is much better than we thought he would be at this stage."

Middlesbrough provided the opposition when Adams made a previous comeback in September, 1996, after a knee operation that had been delayed to allow him to lead England in the finals of the European championship.



Venus Williams serves on her way to victory over Alexia Dechaume-Balleret, of France, in the first round of the Australian Open yesterday

Sisters are doing it for themselves

FROM JULIAN MUSCAT
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN MELBOURNE

SIBLING rivalry, fascinating to all but the combatants themselves, reaches its zenith in Melbourne tomorrow, when Venus Williams confronts her younger sister, Serena, in the second round of the Australian Open. To the two of them, however, "it is just another match".

The match will take place as far away from the comfort of their home as geography allows. Now natives of Florida, the two teenagers, born and raised in a Los Angeles ghetto, are to dispute the accolade of best player in the household. They maintain that the confrontation foreshadows the day when they will regularly meet in finals across the globe.

"I guess young Serena wants to beat on me," Venus, 17, said of of her 16-year-old sister, "so I will be ready. I guess it will be fun, too. I have always thought of us being No 1 and No 2, but not of us playing each other."

The two plan to breakfast together before practising together on the morning of the match. They are inseparable on the tennis circuit; coached by their parents, they do not mingle with others in the locker-room. Both Jehovah's Witnesses, they fervently believe that they will dominate the game.

During tournaments, both wear identical strings of beads in their dreadlocked hair. Venus, tall and lithe, wore purple and green beads for her first appearance at Wimbledon in June. Both are now wearing beads in the green-and-gold colours associated with Australia.

Four months ago, Venus, now ranked No 22 in the world after 12 months of competitive tennis, caused a furore when she bumped into Irina Spirlea during a change of ends in the US Open semi-final, which she won in straight sets. Spirlea later made comments that prompted the girls' father, Richard, to brand Spirlea, from Romania, a "white turkey".

Serena, shorter and more powerfully built, beat Spirlea, seeded No 6, yesterday to set up the showdown with her sister. When asked who would prevail, Spirlea said: "I really don't care."

The two have met competitively only once in their lives — when Venus, ten, comfortably beat Serena, eight, in a junior tournament in California. Neither girl would predict the outcome of tomorrow's match, but Lindsay Davenport, the world No 3, who lost to Serena in Sydney last week, was more forthcoming. "Serena has a much better serve than Venus," she said. "I think she is the better player."

Venus, beaten in the US Open final by Martina Hingis in September, made her debut on the Tour more than three years ago. Because of her age, Serena is only permitted to play a maximum of 11 tournaments a year. Nevertheless, she reached the semi-final in Sydney last week, after coming through the qualifying ranks. Although this is only her fourth tournament, four victories over top-ten opposition in the past three months have seen her soar to No 56.

Sibling rivalry is nothing new. John and David Lloyd, Tim and Tom Gullikson and the three Maleeva sisters all preceded them.

Asked if Venus had reason to fear her on the court, Serena replied: "I like it when my opponents fear me, but I don't think Venus has reason to. I have no reason to fear her also. I have never feared anyone. It is just another match."

Seeds perish, page 49



TORSTEN BLACKWOOD

Serena Williams celebrates her victory over Spirlea

Lewis still in line to meet Holyfield

BY SRIKUMAR SEN, BOXING CORRESPONDENT

LENNOX LEWIS'S hopes of meeting Evander Holyfield for the undisputed heavyweight championship of the world could still be realised this year, even though the bout has been written off in most quarters. Don King, the American promoter, wants to stage the contest in Las Vegas in September and said it is now up to HBO, the American television company that has Lewis under contract, to resume talks with him.

The move to revive negotiations was made by King yesterday when he said that he was not responsible for the earlier failure of talks to stage the bout. Seth Abraham, the head of HBO, was reported to have claimed at the weekend that King had killed the talks deliberately by asking for too much money, thereby preventing Lewis from meeting Holyfield and thus enabling him to stage Holyfield v Tyson III first.

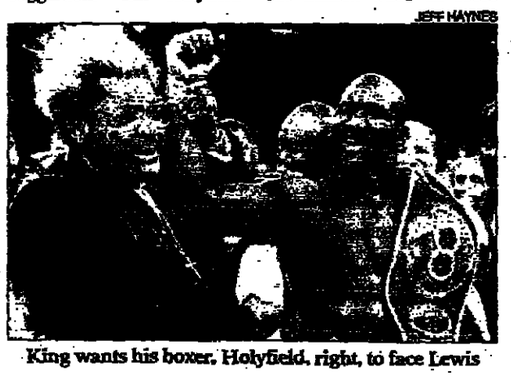
King said Holyfield was prepared to meet Lewis before his third contest with Mike Tyson. The promoter rejected suggestions that Holyfield wanted to meet Tyson first because he was afraid of risking his International Boxing Federation and World Boxing Association titles against Lewis for $20 million when he could make $50 million against Tyson.

"I want to put Holyfield-Lewis on this year in September, after they have finished with their commitments," King said. "The Holyfield v Tyson fight can go on even if Holyfield loses to Lewis. The public will always want to see Tyson fight Holyfield."

Abraham was reported to have said that talks died because King wanted $5-8 million above what HBO was prepared to pay. "The money for the fighters — $20 million for Holyfield and $10 million for Lewis — was assured and it was only the impossibility of coming up with $5-8 million for Don that killed the deal," Abraham said.

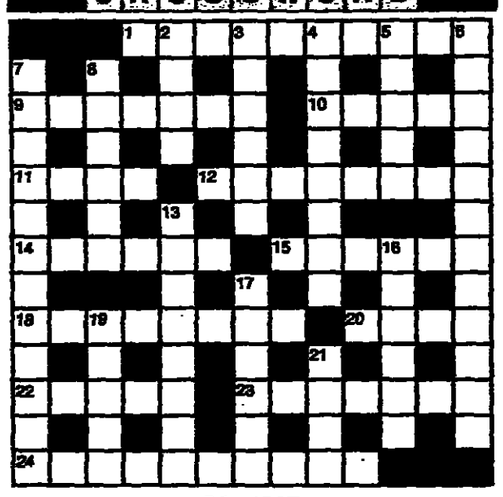
King not only denied that he ever talked about $5-8 million for himself, but he claimed that no figures were discussed at the meeting.

JEFF HAYNES



King wants his boxer, Holyfield, right, to face Lewis

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1307

ACROSS

1 Not yet claimed (2,3,5)
9 Liquid escape (7)
10 Discover; study (5)
11 Dispense (liquid) (4)
12 Abstract, imaginary (8)
14 Waver, stumble (6)
15 Hold tight; settle (contest, argument) (6)
18 I am taking the plunge! (4,4)
20 Disaster, collapse (4)
22 Moneybag; part of kangaroo (5)
23 Revoltingly flattering (remarks) (7)
24 Inquisitive type (4,6)

DOWN

2 Scheme; diagram (4)
3 US state, pioneer trail (6)
4 Easily fooled (8)
5 Once more (5)
6 (Working) on one's own (6-6)
7 Mistake in writing (4,2,3,3)
8 — Johnson, Plimsoll (6)
13 Fly very low (8)
16 (Brain) nerve cell (6)
17 Young cow (6)
19 Puts to flight (5)
21 Indication, hint (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1306

ACROSS: 1 Shun 3 Flagrant 8 Fact 9 Jamaican 11 Scurrilous 14 Acumen 15 Stooge 17 Portcullis 20 Aromatic 21 Kiln 22 Schiller 23 Veil
DOWN: 1 Safe seat 2 Unctuous 4 Liable 5 Gratuitous 6 Arch 7 Tone 10 Free-for-all 12 Poultice 13 Seasonal 16 Strife 18 Mass 19 Loch

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